

Good afternoon everyone

We have had another fantastic day in school, with our new children settling in beautifully and enjoying meeting new friends and exploring their exciting environment. We continue to be amazed at how well our Year 1 and 2 children have adapted to being back in school full time after such a long time out of education. They are, however, already showing signs of being tired, and we are very conscious of this when planning our timetables each week.

I am very much aware that many of you have had to forego your holiday plans this summer - my lovely holiday on the Isle of Wight should in fact have been to Canada! If you are planning alternate holidays yourselves I would just like to politely ask you to be careful that any holidays you plan are not to destinations on the quarantine list - if they are, then you would need to take a further two weeks off school. We are being advised that if holidays are booked to such destinations you would incur a penalty notice. I would also like to emphasise that because of the amount of time our children have been out of school this year every single day they **can** be in school is precious. Therefore holidays of a week or more are also likely to incur a penalty notice. You will have noticed that we have deliberately planned a closure day on November 2nd which would give you the opportunity for a long weekend this term.

We are also aware that many children are suffering with colds and running a temperature. This is then requiring a test which means any siblings have to be off school too - and tests are tricky to get hold of at the moment. If this is the case for your family we will provide you with the learning that your child would have been doing had they been in school in the hope that you will be able to undertake some of this yourselves at home. Obviously whether or not you are able to support with this work will depend on family circumstances.

With anxieties perhaps running quite high I would also suggest that if your child **is** being tested it might be sensible not to share this on social media sites as it could serve to raise anxieties among other parents.

I do hope you all understand the need for these messages, which are shared with the best of intentions. Our aim as a school is to continue to ensure that your children's welfare - both academically and emotionally - is our number one priority.

With very best wishes
Jacky

Jacky Halton
Headteacher