Dear Parents,

This term has been very eventful with considerable children and staff absence last week, which meant for the first time since the pandemic began we had to move one class to remote learning not within a national lockdown. It has been lovely this week to welcome back all those who are now well again, and we thank the parents for their support during this challenging time. Hopefully, moving forward, things will continue to improve and gradually we will all begin to feel a little more comfortable and relaxed around social interactions.

In line with Government Policy that from today face masks are no longer mandatory in public places, we have taken the decision to no longer make a formal request for parents to wear a face covering on the playground. Any parent or staff member may, of course, continue to wear a mask if they wish to.

I am sorry that I once again need to raise the issue of parking on Lammas Road. A neighbour has contacted the school expressing dismay and concern regarding parents parking on the grass verges. Please can those parents who genuinely do need to drive the children to school use the park and walk facilities at the Village Hall or the recreation ground, and make every effort to avoid parking in the immediate environs of the school. This makes it safer for the majority of children who walk to school, and supports our neighbours. Thank you for your support in this matter.

I am delighted to share a date for your diary of Wednesday 16^{th} February immediately after school - this will be the PTA Valentine cake sale. Their Hallowe'en event was very well supported (and delicious) and raised a superb sum of money to support the school; and I know that all the contributions of cake and the subsequent purchases were very much appreciated. I have no doubt that the children will be very excited to be able to buy a treat just prior to half term. The staff and children are very appreciative of a gift of £100 per class from the PTA to choose something to enhance the classroom environment and learning - I am sure the decisions will be well considered!

We have accumulated a considerable amount of un-named lost property recently. Weather permitting I hope to have this on the playground tomorrow afternoon. If your child has mis-laid a garment, please do take a moment to look and claim what you think may belong to you. Thank you. Please note that due to limited space, unclaimed garments in good condition will be passed to the PTA as second-hand uniform for re-sale, others will be recycled where we can.

It has been a pleasure to see the children enjoying the additional curricular activities which have started this term. More are planned across the year as staff pressures allow. It is so good to feel that in small steps school is feeling more as we would wish it to. In the coming weeks we have a number of visits out and visitors in to enhance the learning – exciting times!

Mrs K. Tamlyn Head Teacher