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Dear Parents and Carers

COVID 19 Outbreak

I am writing to inform you that following guidance from Hertfordshire County Council in consultation with Public Health England, we now have an official outbreak of COVID 19 in our Year 6 cohort. Many of these positive cases are not showing the 'official' COVID-19 symptoms (persistent cough, high temperature or loss of taste and smell). Most of the children who have tested positive on lateral flow tests in the last few days have only shown cold-like symptoms, sore throat, aches and pains or have been completely asymptomatic.

Our priority is the safety of our children, families and staff and to continue to provide high-quality face to face education. As such, we are asking Year 6 parents to please be extra vigilant. If your child is showing any of the above symptoms to please do a lateral flow test before sending your child into school.

If the test comes back negative, then children can come into school. If the test is positive, please inform the school immediately and keep your child at home to isolate. Please also report the result of the lateral flow test on this website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> Due to the changes in the guidelines as of Tuesday 11th January, there is no requirement for getting a PCR test if you or your child are asymptomatic but the lateral flow test is positive. Please only book a PCR test if you or your child show symptoms.

The isolation period remains at 10 days, however, you can do a lateral flow test from day 6 of isolation. Children can return to school when they have two negative results (these must be two negative results done 24 hours apart). If other family members test positive while the child is isolating, we respectfully request that your Pixmore child continues to isolate.

Children, who are isolating or awaiting results for PCRs (if they are symptomatic), can access the year group's home learning on the school website under the 'Home Learning' tab and work can be posted for feedback onto Seesaw. Work is updated every week so your child can keep up with the learning and their peers in school.

We will move to follow our COVID outbreak management procedure which will include a more rigorous handwashing and sanitising regime within classrooms, keeping year groups within their bubbles and avoiding mixing, thorough cleaning of classroom areas including 'fogging', staff and all visitors will continue to wear masks in communal areas and in the classroom when in close contact with children. We will ask that all parents wear masks when coming onto the school site to collect children unless you have a medical exemption.

We will update you further if we receive updated advice from Herts County Council or Public Health England or if the situation changes.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Alex Evans
Headteacher