



St John's CE Primary School

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back everyone! It was so good to have the children back last week full of smiles and energy and ready for a new school year.

As always, the older children settled in brilliantly and by Tuesday it already felt like we were all firmly embedded back into our routines. The Nursery and Reception children were simply fantastic too and have quite quickly got used to us. Thank you to all of you for preparing them over the Summer break.

During the Summer we had many renovations and refits within school. You may have noticed the new artificial grass at the front of school, which makes the area safer and more accessible for our younger children. We are also in the process of transforming our old computer suite into a dining area- the computers have all been relocated around school. This will enable the hall to be used for PE and Worship at any point during the day. We also had an incredibly kind gesture from Mr Weston, also known as Mr Washaway (one of our former parents), who cleaned all of our windows free of charge - he has done a stunning job.

You will all be aware of the many changes to the safety precautions and the procedures as we try to mitigate against Covid. Attached to this letter is a useful flow chart, which we received from the Local Authority and Public Health Walsall on Friday evening. Please take your time to read it (unfortunately it isn't presented brilliantly) as it does inform as to when you and your children need to self-isolate.

The key thing here is that, unless there is considered to be an outbreak of the virus, as determined by the Local Authority, then we will no longer be asking for bubbles to self-isolate - just those who have returned a positive test. If your child does show any symptoms then the official advice is to book a **PCR** test not a lateral flow test and then, your child can return once there is a negative result. Understandably some of you may not wish to test children so young, if this is the case then children will have to self-isolate for the full 10 days.

I understand that some of the above points may seem confusing or that you may not agree with them but unfortunately this is now the new, new normal as directed by the Government/DFE in an attempt to keep as many children in school as possible. Should you have any queries at any point please don't hesitate to contact us.

With kindest regards,

Mr Mills

