



22 October 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we approach the half term break, I want to thank you for all of your support over the last seven weeks since the beginning of the school year.

In September we returned to school with a renewed sense of normality. Many of the restrictions that we endured through the last academic year were lifted and we were able to enjoy more face to face teaching, extra-curricular activities and a reduced sense of trepidation and concern. Unfortunately, more recently, as a fresh wave of COVID infection has swept through our community, it has been necessary to re-introduce a number of measures. This has been disappointing and frustrating for us all. We have particularly felt this in the final week of the half term with the introduction of year group rotas. I appreciate that this has been inconvenient and, whilst I regret having to have made the decision to move to rotas, I know that I have the support of so many of you in attempting to keep the school open and, indeed, safe.

On that note, please could I urge you to read the additional letter sent out through all schools today from Reading Borough Council and Brighter futures for Children. This outlines a series of measures which children and families are being asked to follow over half term. The letter outlines how you can access PCR and lateral flow tests. We hope that the closure of the school for a week will give a natural "firebreak" to in-school transmission of the virus. Additionally, we will have hundreds of newly vaccinated students.

If your child is aged 12+ and didn't receive their vaccination in school, you can now book their vaccination at any vaccination centre using [this link](#). We may also have an additional "mop-up" vaccination session in school, although this is not likely to happen for several weeks or even months. We would advise you to get your child vaccinated at a vaccination centre in the first instance.

The last of week of each half term sees the publication of The Pulse with lots of good news articles about school life this half term. I hope you enjoy reading it. It can be found [here](#) and, as is now customary, we have published the latest Headteacher update [here](#) so that you can be aware of the things we have been doing in school this week.

Finally, can I remind parents that the second half of the term begins on Monday 1 November for all students and send you my best wishes; I hope you are able enjoy the half term break.

Yours Sincerely

Mr A Johnson
Headteacher