**CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION FOR STAFF AND PARENTS 16.3.20**

The latest guidance for schools states the following:

* pupils, students, staff and visitors should wash their hands:
	+ before leaving home
	+ on arrival at school
	+ after using the toilet
	+ after breaks and sporting activities
	+ before food preparation
	+ before eating any food, including snacks
	+ before leaving school
* use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available
* avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
* avoid close contact with people who are unwell
* clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces – iPads, laptops, shared telephones and other shared equipment
* if you are worried about your symptoms or those of a child or colleague, please call NHS 111. Do not go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment

**To help to make some of these actions easier to manage, we are going to do the following at school:**

Children will not use the shared iPads and computers;

Stop the use of shared PE mats. Wash hands after using other apparatus such as balls;

Children will wash their hands after any games equipment used at playtime;

Children will not be allowed to use the shared water fountains;

We will ensure that children wash their hands on arrival, before eating, after using PE equipment and before leaving school;

We will not be holding whole school collective worship;

Children do use numbered, personally allocated musical instruments during our lessons;

We will not hold our end of term parent services, which includes the Mother’s Day service, Easter Service and celebration assembly;

We are stopping visiting providers from coming into school. This means there will be no clubs after school with effect from Tuesday 17th March. This includes clubs run by school staff as many of these involve shared equipment such as computers; we will continue running sunset/sunrise club as long as we can although this will be addressed regularly if staff illness becomes an issue.

We will be cleaning door handles and surfaces regularly;

Pens and pencils will be cleaned and children will keep one of each in their drawer. No personal stationery should be used;

There will be an isolation room in school for children or staff to wait in should any symptoms develop during the school day.

**How you can help at home:**

Please make sure your child washes their hands before they come to school and when they get home;

Please make sure they have their own water bottle. No squash please, just water. The children can then refill these as required. These must go home every day and be washed;

Leave all pencil cases and stationery items, toys and personal items at home;

Please inform us at school if your child or any member of your family is showing signs of Covid-19 or if you are choosing to self-isolate because you have been in contact with someone who does;

If you need to come into school or to the office, please wash your own hands.

We do expect to experience staff absences at this time as well as children. We will do everything to ensure that staff self-isolate in a timely fashion and will cover their absence with the least disruption possible. If teaching staff become affected, we will use supply teachers until this is no longer possible. If we became unable to cover classes, we will review whether the school can remain open.

Rhino parents: We would like to let you know that we have booked a supply teacher for Mr Glover for a few days. His daughter (only one year old) has got a high temperature and a chest infection, which wouldn’t usually be of high concern, but his wife is currently recovering from pneumonia and is in quite a high risk health category due to this. Her condition isn’t connected to Covid-19, but we have asked Mr Glover to stay at home to make sure his family are not at risk of any germs related to respiratory conditions being carried home via school, or vice versa.  Paul himself has seen the doctor over the weekend and is now being treated for a chest infection. Thank you for your understanding.

If the kitchen staff were to be affected, we may not be able to provide school meals. In this event, we will notify you as soon as possible. If the school remained open, we would still provide meals for the children entitled to Free School Meals, and we would contact these families to let them know. This will not include universal infant school meals.

We are getting constant updates from the Department for Education, so there may be updates to this provision. We will update you via the website and email, so please keep checking.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs C. Williams

Executive Headteacher