



22nd November 2021
Dear Parents/Carers

Richmond Hill Primary Academy Voluntary Academy

Principal Mrs D Secker
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Principal's Update – 22nd November 2021

I'd like to start with thanking you all for the proactive approach you have taken as families to help us with the current situation in school with Covid-19. It has been due to this approach that children who were asymptomatic were quickly identified and isolated. We are very grateful for the approach taken to reduce the transmission. We remain a school currently following our Outbreak Management Plan and as such we welcomed Doncaster Health Protection Team onto our school site in order to issue testing kits. They were able to distribute 257 kits during their visit. Sprotbrough, along with all the schools within it, currently remains a 'hotspot', so regularly testing in the community is extremely helpful in reducing the current surge.

Alongside my letter today, I have included correspondence sent to schools from the Deputy Director of Public Health in Doncaster, in regards to Christmas activities in schools.

Unfortunately, we are in a position where we have had to look carefully at the risk posed by holding some of our planned events in the next 4 weeks and modify these accordingly. We will not be able to hold any face to face Christmas performances as planned. Singing is high risk in terms of transmission along with gathering crowds. Therefore, this will be modified to be recorded performances of the children which will be placed on the website to view. Singing will be outdoors where possible or a metre radius if inside.

As our outbreak source has been tracked to a recent school visit, all visits planned to take place up to Christmas have been cancelled. We will look into alternative ways for our children to get the planned experience – for example live stream of a pantomime into school. We are currently looking into refunds for visits planned up to Christmas for Y4, Y6 and Reception/Y1 and will let you know when this is confirmed.

Safety is our number one priority and it is important to us that as families you are able to enjoy this year's festive period without restriction, so this is why we are taking the necessary measures.

Our Winter Wonderland outdoor light event will take place along with the children experiencing the Advent countdown to Christmas which they loved so much last year. We will endeavour to make the remaining weeks leading up to Christmas as magical as we can for all our children in school.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.
Kind regards
Yours sincerely

Debbie Secker
Principal

The Rose Learning Trust.

