

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year, I do hope that you all managed some kind of Christmas celebrations. Like many of you, and the staff, my holiday was disrupted by COVID and I sympathise with you if plans were cancelled or if you or family members have been ill. The most important thing is that everyone is safe and well.

You may have seen the most recent government announcements from the Department for Education regarding measures to contain the Omicron variant of Covid. Whilst the number of cases in our area remains high, I want to reassure you that this does not affect our re-opening plans for tomorrow, Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. We continue to plan to be open fully but like all workplaces and schools we have staff who are isolating because of COVID. We will continue to cover these classes the best way possible and I can assure you we will remain fully open while circumstances allow. Thank you in anticipation of your patience and understanding. We all believe schools need to be open and children in school; we are all very excited to welcome you all back tomorrow but we do need your help with this.

The last thing any of us want is to go back to staggered start and finish times and the cancelling of after school activities.

**Regardless of your own personal views, please remember we are asking you to wear masks when dropping off or collecting and we are now insisting that only one parent or carer accompanies their children onto the playground. In addition I would like to ask that where possible you lateral flow test your children today before we return to school tomorrow and then regularly over the coming weeks. In addition, if your child is displaying any symptoms: temperature, cough, runny nose, headache, fatigue, sneezing, sore throat – please book a PCR test for your child and wait for the results before sending them back to school.**

I am available all day on the phone or email if you need any advice or help.

Whilst we continue not to have class mass and assemblies for parents, the majority of other events and activities will go ahead. Please see the school website calendar for updates. <https://www.st-hughlincoln.trafford.sch.uk/calendar>

Many thanks as always for your continued support and cooperation.



M Mountcastle