

Dear Parents / Carers

Firstly, can I thank you for the level of support and understanding you are showing. This is something that none of us have had to deal with before and is clearly not something that is going to pass over quickly and easily. There will be many of you who will be facing huge stresses and pressures, and I wish you all strength and good fortune at this time. Can I also say that the children attending school are showing a really cooperative and sensible attitude to the changes we are making at school to help keep them safe. For example, none complained today when we removed them all from the building at break time, to prevent crowding indoors, even though there was a definite drizzle!

There are many unanswered questions about the working of the school over the next months, but we will continue to deal with things as best we can in the short term whilst making the necessary arrangements for what might be a more medium term problem to solve.

Please can I ask for your help with two things?

We have been asked to gather information regarding the number of our parents who work in certain areas, and to report it back to Norfolk County Council. This is to help them plan suitable child care arrangements for those of you who are needed in work to help fight the spread of the virus. Could you please let us know, by **completing the questionnaire being sent to you separately today** as soon as possible, if you work in any of the following areas;

- any of the emergency services
- hospitals
- any other medical facility such as a GP surgery or pharmacy

Can I also please ask, if possible, and I know a lot of you are doing this already, you send your child to school with their own bar of soap or hand sanitiser. Our supplies remain good at this point but I am very keen not to run out, and anticipate our suppliers are experiencing a much higher demand than normal. I have also received several queries about hand washing, and I believe pupils having their own supply, supplied by you, can only encourage them to wash their hands more often than they currently are. Pupils have time to wash their hands before school, at break time, at lunch time, in between lessons and at 3.30pm before getting on to buses or walking home.

Very importantly, please be aware that several local schools are having to shut to certain year groups due to the number of staff that are needing to self isolate. Although we are currently operational, this could change at any moment. If I do need to take

similar action I will communicate this to you by email and via the school website. Can I ask that you are aware of this and make provisional plans should it potentially affect you, as this is highly likely to be at very short notice.

Finally, can I ask that if you know anyone who has decided to 'over shop' and 'stock up' on anything, you encourage them not to do so. This is not necessary and is, essentially, a completely selfish measure that could leave vulnerable others in a potentially difficult situation.

Yours sincerely

Tim Gibbs

Headteacher: T Gibbs B Ed (Hons) NPQH
Whitwell Road, Reepham, Norwich, NR10 4JT
Reepham High School & College Tel: 01603 870328
Email (main school): office@reephamhigh.com www.reephamhigh.com
Email (college): office@reephamcollege.com www.reephamcollege.com



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

