Fulford School

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2nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the first month back at school.

Your children have been fantastic. They have shown kindness, patience, and empathy as they have adapted to a new way of being at school. Teachers and support staff have worked tirelessly to create an environment where education can continue and your children can feel safe, academically challenged, happy and well cared for. I am tremendously proud of the pupils and staff at Fulford, they are extremely impressive.

As parents and carers, you have put your trust in us to care for and educate your children. I know for some of you there was concern about your children returning to school. We greatly appreciate your support and kindness. You have cooperated with us and shown understanding when we have had to ask your children to self-isolate. You have been responsible around testing despite the frustrations this has brought. All of this helps keep our school and community as safe as possible.

Please continue to report confirmed COVID 19 cases via the dedicated email address positivecovid@fulford.york.sch.uk providing a contact telephone number. If your child is absent due to COVID 19 symptoms or is isolating due to a family member with COVID 19 or symptoms school needs to know the following:

- The date symptoms commenced for the person who is symptomatic
- What the symptoms are.
- The date of the test
- If the test is negative/positive can you contact school as soon as possible with this result.

Good attendance remains as important as ever. If your child doesn't have COVID 19 symptoms then please make every effort to send them to school.

I am delighted to offer congratulations to Mr. Johnson. After half term Mr. Johnson will be leaving Fulford to take up the position of Headteacher at Norton College. Anyone who knows Mr. Johnson will be aware of the immense impact he has had at Fulford School. He has supported the achievements and progress of many thousands of pupils and built strong relationships with many families. We are very grateful for his skills, talents and commitment to the school. We wish him well and know that Norton College will benefit greatly from his leadership.

I would also like to congratulate Mr. Rosie who I am delighted to tell you has been appointed as Deputy Headteacher – Curriculum and Standards at Fulford School. Mr. Rosie has also been a key player in the school's success, latterly as Assistant Head Teacher - Achievement. Mr. Rosie will take up his role as Deputy Head Teacher from 1st November 2020.

You may be aware of the sad death of Josh Reeson, a student in a neighbouring York school. Our thoughts and sympathies go to his family and friends. We are aware that there is a commemoration event on the Knavesmire on Saturday organised by friends and family. Police have asked for support to ensure it is carried out safely.

There are friendship groups of young people across the city and Josh's death has touched some of our pupils. Any close friends who are intending to go to the gathering should follow all social distancing guidance. This is very much the wish of Josh's family. If your child is attending, please ensure that they:

- Wear a mask
- Socially distance in groups of no more than 6
- Act respectfully in line with the wishes of the family
- Disperse from the area quickly in groups of no more than 6

It is important that we all take responsible actions to limit the spread of COVID 19 within our community.

Thank you to families who have completed our questionnaire about the return to school. Please use the link below if you still have not done so. Feedback is invaluable in reviewing our provision and procedures as well as helping us adapt our way of working in the future.

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/S6TK95B

I hope you have a relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely

Steve Lewis
Head Teacher