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Dear parents/carers,

As you are aware, we regularly review our risk assessments and make changes in light of the ever changing COVID-19 picture. Whenever we make changes we are balancing getting the best possible provision for your children with keeping all members of the school community safe.

From today there will be some changes to the timings for lunchtimes. These will enable us to get the best possible provision for the children, including having everyone eat in the dining hall (rather than some children eating in classrooms). This change will also enable us to provide a full menu from January, rather than the reduced vegetarian menu we have had in place since September. For some children lunch will be slightly later than it has been up until this point, all dinners will be served by 1:20pm but it would be very helpful if you could ensure that your child has a healthy snack (no chocolate, sweets or crisps please) for consumption at break time. We are not currently able to run the tuck shop and our ability to provide bagels is currently limited. Please also ensure that your child has a named water bottle in school each day.

Thank for your support with the changes to the way in which you make contact with the school. We have seen a reduction in people entering the reception area and emailing queries instead. This helps us to keep the reception staff safe and well. If your child is late please drop off at the reception front door, rather than entering the foyer.

In an assembly this week we revisited the need for adults outside of the children's bubbles to keep 2m distance. I was very impressed by the children's engagement and understanding of the need for this to happen. As you know we are committed to your children's well-being and providing emotional as well as educational support, children were reassured that adults in their bubble can be closer than 2m. We also looked at ways that other adults in the school will support children from a distance. We all practiced self-hugging and some of the comments from the children were "...calming and comforting" and "nice". If you would like to know more about self-hugging and its benefits have a look at my post on Class Dojo.

Thank you for supporting social distancing on the playground, wearing masks on site and arriving at the appropriate time for your child/children's bubble.

Thank you also for supporting the school to stay open by ensuring that children with COVID-19 symptoms isolate at home, or remain at home **when other members of their household have symptoms and/or are awaiting a test.**

As a reminder COVID-19 symptoms which require self-isolation pending a negative test result are:

- High temperature
- New persistent cough
- Loss of sense of taste or smell

We also appreciate your clear communications with regards to absence due to self-isolating and tests. If you need to contact us in the evening or on the weekend please send a message directly to me (Mrs Curtis) via Class Dojo.

Excitingly, we have taken receipt of an iPad and tripod for each classroom teacher and this will support our blended/distance learning strategy. Please look out for more information on this later this week.

If you have any queries, comments or questions please do speak with your child/children's class teacher or a member of the Principal Team.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Curtis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, decorative initial 'R'.

Rebecca Curtis
Principal