



Enjoying our learning...
...aiming for excellence.

Bells Farm Primary School
Bells Farm Close, Druids Heath
Birmingham. B14 5YG
Tel: 0121 675 8666
Fax: 0121 675 4138
Headteacher: Mrs B Butterworth



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Letters & newsletters will now be emailed to parents. Please ensure you have provided your correct email address to the office.

14th January, 2022.

Dear Parents / Carers,

Well, the time has not come yet when I can stop writing about COVID – unfortunately, as you know, it is having a big effect on school and home. This week we reached the first threshold with 5 linked cases in both years 2 and 6. Up to this morning, the number of children and staff testing positive since returning to school is 22.

Today we have had notifications from 4 families that 4 more children have tested positive – 2 in Year 6 and 1 from each of Years 4 and 5. It is really important that you test your child if you are informed that someone in their class has tested positive. This needs to be every day for 7 days.

If you or your child are showing any symptoms of COVID at all, you should do a PCR test. If you have a positive case in your household it is essential that everyone in the household has daily lateral tests. The choice remains yours about whether you send siblings to school if they are testing negative, but our experience is showing that because of the contagiousness of this variant, the children are then testing positive a few days later. This is obviously a concern as we try to manage risk in school. Schools are crowded places by their very nature and we are trying to contain the spread as much as we possibly can. We obviously don't want children to be ill, and we also want to contain the spread to staff who will then be out of class for at least a week – longer if they are ill with the virus. It is a challenging time for schools and difficult decisions have to be made by both ourselves and you as parents and carers.

Following advice from Public Health, the following additional measures are being carried out:

- Deep cleaning of all affected classrooms (this had been carried out at the start of the week anyway and will continue to be in operation.)
- Avoid any mixing of classes which is not essential for learning. Unfortunately, this means that our clubs which were due to start next week will have to be postponed for two weeks initially until we see where we are with new cases and whether this drops.



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The additional advice from Public Health is to ensure ventilation throughout the school (already in place) and to remind you of the importance of vaccination for yourselves and regular lateral flow testing even if you have not been in contact with infected people.

So that's where we are at the moment, but as I have said before, we will get through this together - it will just take more time than we want! Thank you for the part you are playing and please continue to keep us informed of any new cases at home so that we can continue to inform the parents and carers of affected classes.

Have a good weekend everyone – and get well soon if you or anyone in your family is affected at the moment.

Kind regards,

Barbara Butterworth



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