



The Federation of Antrobus St Marks and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary School  
Headteacher: Mrs S A Finney

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Dear Parents

Welcome back to the second half of our Spring Term with the great news that we can welcome all our children and families back from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The DfE have confirmed that this is mandatory for all pupils except the clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), which means fixed penalty notices will be issued for unauthorised absences as per usual. If your child is classed as CEV then you will be receiving a letter confirming this which you will need to share with school.

We return with all the safety measures that were in place in the Autumn and we are confident that children and staff are safe in school.

#### Prevention

- minimise contacts with individuals who are required to self-isolate by ensuring they do not attend school
- ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances
- ensure frequent hand washing and good respiratory circumstances
- ensure enhanced cleaning and increased ventilation in occupied spaces
- ensure minimising contact across site and maintain social distancing where possible

#### Response

- engage with NHS Test & Trace process
- manage and report confirmed cases among the school community. School specific email: [covid@greatbudworth.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:covid@greatbudworth.cheshire.sch.uk)
- contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

Children will return to their class bubbles and will be kept apart from other classes wherever possible. We will endeavor to limit interaction between classes in school as much as possible. However, staff are allowed to operate across different classes.

Collective Worship and larger whole school gatherings are still not allowed. Staggered start and finish times remain the safest way to reduce numbers gathering at the front of school. Please collect/deliver your children and leave promptly so other adults are not left feeling uncomfortable with the numbers. Please wear a face mask and only one parent to attend for pickup.

Staff will continue to test themselves with lateral flow devices twice a week. This is to pick up asymptomatic cases in school quickly.

Wrap around care will continue to operate on both sites. This is an extra drain on the school budget as we have to employ double the number of staff, so please keep up to date with your payments for this, and it would be particularly helpful if all balances are paid before our financial year end.

Debbie Hein will be in school on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> March to recommence music lessons for those that have them with her.

School dinners we will commence with week 3 of menus starting on Monday 8 March and snacks will also be available: no changes to the costs.

We are so excited to be returning to having full time schools again. It hasn't been the same without you all. Once again, we have been delighted with your engagement with our remote learning and thank you for all your positive comments surrounding this. We have detailed information which will help with each child's starting point so don't worry about if you weren't able to do very much or worry they will be held back! Across both schools, staff are exceptionally good at personalising learning. Whilst it may take a couple of weeks, we will be back up to speed as soon as possible, bearing in mind we will be keeping a close eye on everyone's mental health.

During half-term, one of our Governors' was taken into hospital. Rev. Michael Field regularly led worship in both schools before COVID and will be remembered for his lively worship sessions, especially by our older pupils. He is back home now and recovering, but we send our love and prayers that he will soon be back to full health.

Our caretaker, Mr. Jim Southern is sadly still awaiting a hospital procedure for his aneurysm and so won't be back with us for a while yet. We miss him and also send our love and prayers to him and his family.

We officially welcome our new office team: Mrs. Nicola Crampton, as Bursar, Mrs. Ceri Gratton-Berry and Mrs. Sue Tutt as admin assistants. All three will work across both schools, so you will meet them all. They are very keen to meet you all and get to know the children.

Finally, there is light at the end of the tunnel! We are arriving and leaving in daylight, we've had some warmer days to play out and everyone can come back from 8<sup>th</sup>. We have a long way to go to be completely back to normal, but we've made a start, and for that I am grateful.

The DfE have advised more details will follow over the next couple of weeks and I will, as always, share these with you as appropriate.

Kind regards

S. A. Finney

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Headteacher

