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Headteacher: Brett Stevenson

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well, and that your family and friends enjoy good health. This has been a very difficult time, and I know that the routines at home and work may have been difficult to manage over the last half term. As I write this, there are some encouraging signs of changing seasons peeping through, although it is bitterly cold. I hope that we have warmer days soon, like last Spring, which was lovely.

Every week I look at our registers and gather a sense of how the children are doing. I also look regularly on Google Classroom. I am very impressed with the work that the children have been doing, and of course pleased that so many children have engaged with what we have to offer. I also know that not all pupils and families access Google Classroom, and have spoken to the teachers about the welfare and progress of

I have a little 7 year old boy, who is at home. I know how difficult it can be to motivate a child, as a parent. Sometimes the work may look daunting, and even overwhelming. This is never the intention of any teacher. As parents you perform an incredible job, often with less resources than we have here, and possibly feel pressure. Can I assure you that whilst we are very much looking forward to return later this year, we are also not looking to judge the home learning that has taken place. In fact, you are always the best judge of your children, especially at home.

### **Track and Trace Responsibilities Over Half Term**

As half term approaches, I wanted to remind everyone that school will be closed from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February and will resume on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Once again schools have been asked to help with our track and trace responsibilities.

The DfE have asked schools to make school families aware of the following arrangements regarding positive cases in the holidays.

- **Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours since being in school, (up until 3:30pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February) the school should be contacted on [federation.head@blakeney.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:federation.head@blakeney.gloucs.sch.uk)**

Please put 'Positive Covid Case' as the subject for the email.

- Where a pupil or staff member **tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school (after 3:30pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February), the school should not be contacted.** Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

If we are informed that a pupil or staff member has developed symptoms and tested positive for coronavirus within 48 hours after teaching ends I will send an email a text and place a notice the school website to inform the relevant bubbles of their need to self-isolate.

I am hoping for all our school and staff families that we can enjoy a healthy restful half term and avoid any of our families having to self-isolate over this period.

If you have any other queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address above.

In the meantime, thank you for your support, and of course take care.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Stevenson', with a large loop at the end.

Brett Stevenson  
Headteacher  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2021