

Good afternoon Parents and Carers

This is a slightly earlier email for this week as we approach half term. Firstly, we wanted to say a huge thank you for the high engagement and understanding you have shown with the changes to guidance, tweaks to procedures, the wearing of face coverings on the school site, the respecting of each other's space, and following all the site and Covid rules. We do so appreciate your positive comments and constructive comments towards all these risk assessment expectations and we are sure they will have helped us all to stay as safe as possible during the past 7 weeks of this term. We feel that in spite of York being in Tier 2 restrictions, to keep the number of cases in school and the Strensall area as low as we have done, is testament to a community that is pulling together in these challenging times.

It is clear that everyone is ready for a break next week! Children and staff do need a week to recharge and rest. There is a considerable emotional and physical investment involved in following the rules in school for everyone's safety and we all appreciate so much how well all your children have done this term. They are a credit to you and thanks again for all your support from home too. You will all need a half term break too!

Home Learning for Covid Absence & Homework too

We all hope the revised homework structure is working for you all. Those key drivers of reading regularly and practising counting, number bonds and times tables are so key because we know they all take so much repetition for a child to move from 'finding it hard', to 'working it out', to 'becoming confident' in achieving it and feeling good about themselves.

A huge well done to all pupils who have undertaken home learning (and parents - we know you are absolutely key in making it happen!) over this past fortnight or so. Much celebrating has happened since those pupils returned to school, in recognition of the effort made and what a real difference spending that quality home learning time makes to learning and progression overall. We know that home learning is challenging to plan, deliver and give feedback on a regular basis but we also recognise that the organisation and time needed from adults at home is a big commitment too.

We recognise that we are all doing it together in the best ways we can.

After half term, we keep our fingers crossed for low levels of disruption, and know that we will continue to develop our systems to support home learning further, especially through exploring the opportunities to do some live learning too through use of Google Meet (part of the google classroom).

Parents Evenings - Week beginning 9th November - sign up if you haven't already!

We are delighted that we are able to offer more than a telephone call for parents evenings and even though we know there may be the odd IT malfunction along the way, it will be much better to see each other's faces when we hold our Autumn parent evenings.

Your child's teacher will focus upon three main aspects with you:

- 1. Behaviour for learning/settling back into school life – (readiness to learn, respect, effort, active listening, resilience, collaborative skills, independent learning etc).**
- 2. What learning is going well?**
- 3. What the next steps in learning are? (through sharing some key targets for your child).**

Staff News!

We have 2 members of staff with new families! Mrs Tiffany welcomed baby Lucas into her family and Mr Hodges welcomed baby Joshua into his. We are sure you will all join us in sending huge congratulations to them both.

Finally, we do hope you all have a really good half term break, despite the Tier 2 restrictions and we will see you all, socially distanced on Monday 2nd November from 8:45 for meet and greet at the usual doors.

This has and will continue to be a real team effort

From The Whole Staff Team At RWPA

Please remember to contact us via the Ebor Central email address specifically set up for half term, if your child tests positive for Covid-19 over the half-term holiday. This will enable us to identify anyone in our school who may be classed as a contact as soon as possible.

Please email **covid19@ebor.academy** and advise the name of your child's school, year group & class teacher and a contact telephone number.