13th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As you are all aware we are following government policy regarding school closures linked to the Coronavirus. At this stage schools remain open. A contingency plan is in place in the case any directives from the government change and schools have to close.

Staff are already preparing work for children to complete and our website will have useful games and sites to visit too **if** this is needed. We will communicate with parents through ParentMail and the school Jotter App so please make sure you check these regularly and turn on notifications.

Concern over this new virus can make children and families anxious. Children look to adults for guidance on how to react to stressful events and need factual, age appropriate information. Teaching children positive preventive measures, talking with them about their fears, and giving them a sense of some control over their risk of infection can help reduce anxiety.  Here is a resource to help you speak with your child - [Talking to Children about Coronavirus](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crises/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-%28coronavirus%29-a-parent-resource).

**Know the symptoms of COVID-19.**

The Public Health England believes these symptoms appear in a few days after being exposed to someone with the disease or as long as 14 days after exposure:

* Fever
* Cough
* Shortness for breath
* For some people the symptoms are like having a cold; for others they are quite severe or even life threatening. In either case it is important to check with your child’s GP or dial 111 and follow instructions about staying home or away from public spaces to prevent the spread of the virus.

Let school know if your child is sick and keep them home. If your child or anybody your child has had contact with is diagnosed with COVID-19, let the school know so they can communicate with and get guidance from local health authorities.

School trips and excursions will be reviewed on a daily basis under the advice of Public Health England.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you need any further information.

Mrs K Sarbutts