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9th November 2020

Ref:MCG/ber/Parents Comms/091120

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Firstly, I do hope that you had a wonderful half term holiday, and your child enjoyed their first week back at school. Walking the school through the week I saw lessons that were purposeful and students who really were engaged in their learning. It is '*Show Kindness*' term at Bishopshalt this term, one of our core values. We are very much looking forward to our 'Random Act of Kindness Week', and also our Drop Down day. Show Kindness dropdown day will involve students working towards local, national and international causes and involved in many exciting activities such as learning the basics of sign language.

Secondly, I do also hope that you and your family are well and managing this second national lockdown. It continues to be a challenging time for all of us, and I am proud that Bishopshalt is providing a safe environment and a sense of normality for your child. We know that we are not through this pandemic, and as we head into the winter we may face difficult times ahead. With that in mind, and cases prevalent in the community, we will provide a weekly update on cases, and changes to national guidance if it impacts on the school. We will of course continue to contact you immediately if your child is required to isolate due to our internal track and trace procedures.

I want to thank you all for your support with your child wearing masks in school last week. Please be reminded that they must be black, blue or of the surgical variety. We would prefer your child to wear fabric masks, as not only can they be reused after washing, they are also better for the environment.

May I also take this opportunity to remind you that all Bishopshalt students must return home immediately after school and ensure they maintain social distancing on their way home. Where this is difficult they should continue to wear their mask until they arrive home.

From this week, if your child is isolating but well enough to complete work, there will be virtual learning to complete during the school day and students should follow their school timetable. We are endeavouring to ensure that no child is disadvantaged due to having to isolate. Details will be provided to the families of those isolating.

I want to wish our Year 11 and Year 13 students the best of luck in their Mock exams this week. The dedication to your studies that you have shown not only this academic year, but also throughout the lockdown, has been exceptional and I have no doubt they will do very well.

My final request is to parents who drop off and pick up students, we ask that you are mindful of our local community when parking and waiting for your children.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely

L McGillicuddy (Mr)
Headteacher



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