

**23rd October 2020**

Dear Parents / Carers

The children have been an absolute credit over the last 8 weeks and have adapted to the new school routines with ease and positivity. I have sometimes chuckled as I have heard little voices shout outside the toilets 'Is there anyone in there?' as they know not to mix bubbles or as I watch them lining up for lunch remaining socially distant from others without having to be asked. I feel very proud of our children, especially their manners and social skills. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than welcoming everyone into school on a morning. I know that you will feel as proud of your child as we do.

We have had the perfect end to the half term with our non-uniform day and Halloween activities. School has been a buzz of excitement and laughter - just as it should be. The children looked fantastic and were so excited to show off their costumes. Staff have worked incredibly hard this term and I would like to extend my thanks to them for all their hard work and team spirit.

Amazingly, attendance has been excellent this half term. The government sets a target of 96% and we have achieved over 98% attendance this half term which I am sure you will agree is fantastic given the current situation.

I am sure you don't need reminding that school closes today for the half term break and reopens on Monday 2nd November.

Finally we have been asked to forward following information from Amanda Healy, Director of Public Health for County Durham, to parents

*Dear Parents*

*Firstly can I thank everyone, children, parents and school staff alike for their efforts during this first term back to school. Although it's been a challenge for many we have started to see a steady rhythm within schools living under covid measures. Thank you.*

*It is in this respect that I write to you today. With the high rates of COVID-19 in County Durham currently, I am asking that if your child is diagnosed with COVID-19 during the school holidays it is very important that you provide information about who they have had contact with, both in school and out of school, with the NHS Test and Trace Service.*

*Your child should not return to school following the holidays if they develop symptoms or are in the self-isolation period. Find out more at [www.durham.gov.uk/article/23337/Staying-safe-at-school-coronavirus-](http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/23337/Staying-safe-at-school-coronavirus-)*

*In addition I know our children and young people will still want to see their friends during the holidays, but please can I remind all parents that children and young people must not meet up in groups larger than six people (of any age) and that young people should not be gathering indoors with friends. Please also remember where they do meet up in groups of six or less they should still observe social distancing and good hand hygiene. Helping our children and young people to understand the importance of this will help to keep us all safe and healthy.*

*Thank you again for your help in this matter and I wish you a safe and well half term break.*

*Your sincerely*

*Amanda Healy, Director of Public Health for County Durham*

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## Red Rose Primary School

Wishing you all a restful and safe half term. We look forward to welcoming you back to school after the half term break.

Take care and keep safe.

Mrs A Brinton

On behalf of staff and governors at Red Rose School

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