

## Barley Lane School

*Friendship, Optimism, Hardwork*

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Dear All,

There are a few things to explore and share with you today; many of them are familiar themes.

As we anticipate everyone's return to school please be reassured school is a safe place for all of us: staff are now vaccinated and their confidence boosted and everyone planning to return to work; the virus does not present a high risk to children and young people but being away from school does; COVID controls are and will remain in place for example good ventilation and social distancing.

Please be reassured children and families anxious about returning will be listened to and supported in making a safe and personalised return: that said students whose attendance was a concern before lockdown in the autumn term will be at greater risk of a formal intervention from the Education Welfare Service and not being in school must be explained and understood and resolved. Be reassured each absence is treated individually and this is the position Devon County Council are taking.

On vaccination the school's position is we want to support and encourage it for everyone based on a rational trust in the science and our health service and our responsibility to each other and wider society to do so: as someone whose grandfather died of complications from Polio I am very aware without mass vaccination many horrible and deadly diseases would still be around.

I know the children's teachers have been talking to you all about home-testing and it is relatively simple and doable at home where the children can feel safe and supported by their parents and many of you have shared you want to access it and government is telling us they will share how to access the test kits soon.

We won't be testing children returning because we never closed and most of our young people are already in school and there is a reluctance and anxiety in many children about doing so in school and doubts too about their ability to do the test unsupported: experience tells us it is so much easier and less stressful for staff and so even more so for students to discreetly self-test at home.

*Michael*

<b>NAME</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>
Michael MacCourt	07848028341
David Jones	07848457025
Wendy Hoaken	07848028342
Katrina C Crocker	07848457022
Judith Ford	07436104121
Carl Moore	07436104050
Razna Miah	07436104055
Alysa Lee	07848457269
Harry Bushin	07848457083
Michael McDaid	07848457024
Clare O'Riley	07436104113
Office/Continuity	07436104056
Angela Butler	07436104060
Patrisha TG	07436104075
Jessica Hunter	07848457270
Gabbie Barrett	07848457023
Caroline Burnard	07436104059
Chloe Harber	07436104114
Laura Spry	07938377337
Jason McCarthy	07395887217
Nicky Cassidy	07860846254
Chris Long	08760846255
Tim Ahern	07860846263
Julian Credgington	07860846267
Ben Wells	07860846271
Alan Stuckey	07860846277
Natalie Scofield	07860846278
Andy Guy	07860846279
Kitchen/PR	07860846281
Vicki Parr	07860846285
Vicki Sessions	07860846270
Daniel Causon	07999118470
Jenni Phillips	07999114403
Alice Carrington	07436104058
Sam Richards	07999116416
Spare	07860846289
Spare/RDeane	07436090650