



*together we aspire,
we discover,
we excel*

Lordswood Girls' School

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Dear Parents/Carers

As we start the first holiday of this academic year, I would like to say a massive thankyou to all the parents, students and staff members who have made my first half term such an enjoyable one.

It has been lovely to see students moving around the building and enjoying shared break and lunchtimes again. It feels like normality is slowly resuming. However, I must remind everyone that COVID is still around and is still affecting the daily running of the school. We have seen an increasing number of confirmed cases over the last few weeks and this continues to disrupt the learning of those affected. Thankfully a large majority of the positive cases have been detected by the weekly LFT that students have been undertaking, this has massively helped to reduce the spread of the infection. It is therefore essential that students continue to test over the holiday – especially on Monday 1st November before returning to school.

As the weather begins to become colder, we have seen an increase in seasonal stomach bugs. Please can I take this opportunity to remind families of the need for students to remain away from school for 48 hours after vomiting. This will help to keep our school community healthy.

Please can I also remind everyone that although we do have a number of first aiders in school, their training is in emergency aid - they are not qualified to diagnose medical conditions and cannot give medication. We have seen an increasing number of students asking to see a first aider for minor ailments e.g. period pains, headaches. We would appreciate parents/carers having discussions with their children about only asking to come out of lessons if they feel that their illness warrants being sent home as our first aiders are unfortunately able to support with such conditions.

We have also seen a number of students asking for advice on injuries that they have sustained out of school. If an injury is sustained out of school, it is vital that medical help is sought before coming into school. First aiders are only trained to deal with emergency care.

Over the last few weeks, I have been made aware that a large number of students are asking reception to contact parents to bring in a wide range of 'forgotten' items. This half term we have been empathetic as students have been returning to 'normal' processes. However, this is not sustainable and isn't encouraging students to become the independent young people that we aspire for them to become. Therefore from next half term we will only be contacting parents in extenuating circumstances.

I hope you all have a fantastic half term and we look forward to seeing all our students safely back in school at normal time on Monday 1st November.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. K. A. Cooney
Headteacher