

RIPLEY ST THOMAS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

ripleystthomas.com
Ashton Road Lancaster LA1 4RS



01524 64496
admin@ripley.lancs.sch.uk

20 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a very different half term today, I would like to thank you for your support. In amongst shifting local and national guidance, it has been a good to have a sense of (near) normality and routine back in school and to see our young people engaging in their learning.

COVID-19

As you know, we have had a number of positive tests for COVID-19 during the last week. The safety of our children and staff is my priority. I will always act in response to a positive case and I will keep you informed. We are taking regular advice from the DFE, from NHS 119, from Public Health England and the Lancashire Health Protection Team. They advise that we are doing exactly the right thing by following the guidance we are given.

To support us in keeping safe, could I remind all parents of the following:

- Please ensure your child stays at home if they are experiencing any of the coronavirus symptoms. The main one which is presenting at the moment is loss of taste and smell so please be alert for that.
- If someone in your household has symptoms, the whole household needs to self-isolate until the result is back.
- If your child is sent home from school to self-isolate, they must complete the full isolation period, even if they receive a negative test result during that period.
- When travelling to school, pupils should not be travelling in a car with someone from outside their household.
- Please ensure you follow the Tier 3 guidance and restrictions around socialising outside of school. This will help us contain the spread of the virus in school as well.

Over Half Term

If any of our pupils receives a positive test for COVID-19 during the holidays, please can you inform us using the dedicated email address: positivetest@ripley.lancs.sch.uk The phone and the admin@... email will not be monitored over the holidays.

Parking

Could I remind parents to please be mindful of residents in neighbouring streets and also the entrance to the doctors' surgery near school. We have been receiving complaints about parking on double yellow lines and driveways being blocked.

Communicating with School

As we are a large organisation, we have a policy for communication. I have copied the link to this policy below. Could I draw your attention to the section about how you should address any concerns you may have, particularly regarding the questioning of sanctions and detentions <https://ripleystthomas.com/app/uploads/2020/08/policy-communication-policy-2019-05.pdf>

Believe.....

The policy does refer to a Principal's drop in session on a Thursday morning. I am afraid I am not able to offer a drop in at the moment due to current restrictions.

News and Events

We have gathered together a selection of photographs for you of some of the things which have been happening this half term. These can be found in the news and events section of the website, so please have a look. I hope you enjoy looking at what our young people have been up to.

<https://ripleysthomas.com/hitting-the-first-half-term/>

I hope you all have a restful and safe half term break.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Walmsley', written in a cursive style.

Mrs C Walmsley
Principal