



27th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

January Update 3 – Thank-you!

As you will be aware from texts, letters, newsletters and discussions that many of you have been having with us, the past two weeks at Haytor View have presented us with challenges in relation to COVID that we have not seen before.

Having had 5 of our teachers test positive over the last two weeks (four from Key Stage 2) we'd like to thank you, as well as our whole staff team, for the flexibility, understanding and trust that has been shown. We are grateful to have a staff team focussed upon bringing their best even in the face of challenge. We are equally grateful to the wider school community for trusting and talking to us during this period.

It has been difficult to keep you in the picture given all the changes that have been necessary over recent days, but the purpose of this letter is to draw breath and let you know how provision has looked:

- Mrs Penn returned to the **Foundation Stage** this week with her absence having been managed within the team and using supply staff known to the children and adults in the setting.
- Mrs Cousins is returning to **Year 4** tomorrow, Friday. In her absence her class has been led by supply teacher Mrs Lake, with support from Miss Wicks and Mrs Brown. Mrs Lake is known to children throughout the school and we are grateful for what she and the team have brought Year 4 during this time, supported from afar by Mrs Cousins.
- We hope that Mr Hankin will be returning to **Year 6** on Monday. During his absence his class has been led by Miss Shopland, with Mr Hankin often 'remoting in' from home. The children's strong relationships with Miss Shopland have supported their week enormously.
- Mr Franklin has stepped back in time, returning to Key Stage 2 and into **Year 5** during Miss Manley's absence since Tuesday – we hope that Miss Manley will be back with us during next week. We know that the children in Year 5 have done themselves and Miss Manley proud, and that Mr Franklin has been having a great time with the children.
- In moving Mr Franklin from **Year 2**, we have welcomed Mrs Bahoum to his class for much of the week. Again we are pleased that Mrs Bahoum is known to children in Key Stage 1 and the Foundation Stage and that she has enjoyed her time with the class, supported by the Key Stage 1 team, and guidance from Mr Franklin. Mrs Brooks is joining Year 2 today and tomorrow, again under the guidance of Mr Franklin and the Key Stage 1 team. Mrs Brooks has again worked with us before and knows our school.
- Finally Mrs Russell who generally provides teaching support across **Key Stage 2** will be returning to us on Monday which will enable her to return to Years 3-6 in support of teachers time spent planning and managing their responsibilities.

So there's been a lot going on! As we head towards the end of the week we'd want to assure you that in the face of these significant challenges, the well being and care of your children has been at the heart of every decision we have made. This will continue to be the case.

We are hopeful that with your continued help in being vigilant around your children's and family's health and with the care of everyone in the school community at this unusual time, this period will pass quickly. Do get in touch with us with any questions or concerns that you have at what we recognise as a difficult time for many.

Yours sincerely

Scott Hampton
Co-Head Teacher

Katy Galling
Co-Head Teacher