**DRIFFIELD JUNIOR SCHOOL - Monday 4th January 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you’ve all managed to have a lovely Christmas. Happy New Year to you and let’s hope that this year sees some major improvements and we can get back to some sense of normality as soon as possible.

We are very much looking forward to seeing the children back at school tomorrow (Tuesday 5th January). Having reviewed our Covid-19 procedures and practices this morning, Mrs Dixon and I are happy that we are doing all that can be expected to keep our pupils and staff as safe as is feasible. Now that the size of our ‘bubbles’ has been reduced, we have minimised further the risk of children having to self-isolate in the instance of a positive case in school.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the following:

* Children must NOT arrive at school before 8.50am as this encourages them to congregate outside school, sometimes with children from different bubbles which we must avoid wherever possible.
* Parents who come onto the site to collect children at home time should wear a face covering (unless exempt) and should be on site for as short a time as possible. Anything other than a very quick word with a teacher should be conducted over the phone or via email please. Please see below for a slight change to where year 3 children will line up at home time.
* If you are waiting outside school for your child to come out at home time, please don’t wait too close to the gates (and definitely not near the railings on Wansford Road) and I would advise that face coverings are worn if there are other parents around, as social distancing will be difficult.
* Because it is essential that classrooms are well ventilated, children should wear layers of clothing to keep warm. They must wear their school uniform but can bring a fleece or similar to wear over the top. I would also advise wearing a vest or t-shirt under children’s polo shirts as an additional layer. Two pairs of socks is another good idea and, of course, children should wear sturdy footwear and a warm coat every day. Children play out even in inclement weather as it’s good for them to have the fresh air and exercise (obviously not if it’s extremely wet or icy).
* If a member of your family is unwell and is seeking a test, or has had one, it is essential that the whole family self-isolates. Children must not attend school until a negative test outcome has been received and no-one within the household is displaying Covid symptoms. At every stage it is very important that you keep school updated. Thanks.

Year 3 lining up at home time – a slight change that you need to be aware of

From tomorrow, the year 3 classes will line up closer to the Manorfield Avenue gate at 3.30pm, rather than nearer to the school building. Parents must come on to the playground so that the teacher can see them, because we don’t want any children going missing, especially as it is often quite dark at school leaving time. This change has been made for safety reasons after concerns were raised just before the Christmas holidays.

Year 3 parents can enter the site at 3.30pm via either the Bridlington Road or Manorfield Road gates. Due to the new lining up situation, it may be easier for parents to enter and leave via Manorfield Road.

If you have any queries, or wish to report a pupil absence from school, please telephone school on 01377 253371 or email driffield.juniors@eastriding.gov.uk (or llaird@djs.eriding.net).

Many thanks.

Linda Laird - Headteacher