



IF YOU RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF A POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST RESULT WITHIN YOUR FAMILY PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL BY PHONE (8.30AM TO 3.30PM ON SCHOOL DAYS) OR BY EMAIL (WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS) IMMEDIATELY

Welcome back - I hope you have all had a great Christmas and New Year break. It has been really sad for everyone that we have had to close to the majority of children this term and we recognise the pressures this puts on families. We are here to support you in every way we can so please do get in touch if there is anything we can do to help during this lockdown period.

This lockdown is different to the one in March last year in that there is a responsibility on schools to provide learning similar to what the children would receive in school. Schools in general are in a much better position to provide this now and I am really pleased at how Google Classroom has worked this week for us at Vallis. I am sure all of you, including the staff, are learning how it works quite quickly and it has been lovely to see all the comments from you. We cannot thank all the adults enough for taking the time to master the use of the Google platform and for the support you are giving the children in their learning – particularly if you are trying to work from home yourselves. I know there was plenty of laughing in school on Tuesday as the teachers tried to do their videos and having done some assembly videos last term myself I feel their pain too – personally I hate watching myself on video!

We are still awaiting some updates from the Government regarding benefits based free school meals and we will keep you informed of developments as we find out more information.

We had a number of new children joining us this term so a big welcome to you all – hopefully we will all be back in school soon and you can then start to settle into your new classes.

In the meantime, I hope you all keep safe and well.

Best wishes

Nick Firkins
Headteacher