

21st January 2022

Dear Families,

I hope that you and your families are all well.

Another week has flown by at Riverside School and, despite the frosty mornings, our commitment to creating a feeling of warmth across our whole school community remains as strong as ever. Building connections and friendships remains a huge part of our work and it is always wonderful to see your children playing and working alongside one another in so many different contexts. And whilst we know that many of our children like their own company at times, spotting an unplanned or, at times, unexpected moment of connection between them really is a special thing.

In line with our commitment to communicate frequently and openly with you about all COVID-related matters, I can confirm that we have had 23 positive COVID cases this week. Of this week's cases, twelve were pupils and eleven were staff (sixteen at SPC, five at Beckenham and two at West Wickham). Three classes had more than one positive case. You will be aware from previous letters that, in such cases, additional measures are put in place to try and minimise the risk of further transmission and these have been outlined in previous letters. I would like to thank you all for your understanding and support for all the measures we have in place.

You may have picked up in the news yesterday that from next Thursday 27th January, face coverings are no longer recommended in communal areas for staff and pupils. We will, however, be maintaining our policy of all staff and visitors wearing face coverings in communal areas for the whole of next week. We will review this next Friday 28th January and will of course let you know of any changes.

In other important news, we are always fully committed to supporting our wider school community as much as we can and with that in mind, we are launching a pre-loved uniform platform for anyone who may need it. So, if you have any uniform that your child has now outgrown, we would be grateful if you could send it in to the school office. If you would like to request an item of pre-loved uniform, please complete the form [HERE](#) to enquire about availability. All requests will be handled sensitively and thank you in advance for your support for this important initiative.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Steve Solomons
Headteacher