

7<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Families,

I hope that you and your loved ones are all well. It always seems a little strange when we don't have a full week at school but we have certainly tried to cram as much as possible into the four days we have spent with your wonderful children. For our Riverside West Wickham children, we have had to condense this into three days due to the site being used as a polling station yesterday. Unfortunately, we do not have any control over this and I hope it did not cause you too much inconvenience.

As promised in previous letters, we will continue to update you on a weekly basis should any of our pupils or staff receive a positive COVID-19 test result across the school and we will of course inform you immediately if your child is directly affected. I am pleased to report that for the seventh week running, we have had **no positive cases** at Riverside School.

In last week's letter, I wrote about International Dance Day and reflected on the significance of the Performing and Expressive Arts at Riverside School. For many years, we have seen the power and impact of music, dance and drama and these remain at the core of our curriculum. We have always aimed to weave the arts into so many different elements of the school day in an inclusive, meaningful and joyful way. So, in addition to the bespoke class-based sessions led by our talented Expressive Arts Team, our staff embrace and incorporate music, movement and dance into everyday classroom experiences, from transition songs to movement breaks; storytelling to communication games – which all combine to make our school community a lively, colourful and vibrant place to be.

We hope that you have been able to share musical or movement-based activities with your child through the videos [www.riversideschool.org.uk/page/?title=Video+Galleries&pid=16](http://www.riversideschool.org.uk/page/?title=Video+Galleries&pid=16) and resources [www.riversideschool.org.uk/page/?title=Expressive+Arts+Video+Resources&pid=209](http://www.riversideschool.org.uk/page/?title=Expressive+Arts+Video+Resources&pid=209). But for now, it is with real pleasure that we present our International Dance Day film, which was used to teach the different styles and genres last week. We hope you enjoy it. [CLICK HERE](#) to view.

As we progress through the stages of our Riverside Roadmap in the weeks ahead, we will continue to remain full of hope, optimism and positive energy because quite simply, you and your children deserve nothing less.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and with very best wishes,



Steve Solomons  
Headteacher