

# Garden Fields J.M.I School

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*Growing Hearts and Minds*

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26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## **School Update: 26th November**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Covid cases**

I just thought it would be useful to give you a bit of an update around our Covid case data now that we have been back a few weeks after half term. Before half term we were having a fairly regular 15 or so children off school with Covid each day. This doesn't mean that these were fresh cases each day – it just meant that as children came back to school from isolation, others went off – with the end result being a figure in the mid-teens isolating, out of a school population of 580 pupils.

Just after half term cases fell to the point where we had less than 5 cases in the first week back. They have now climbed back to the mid-teens. Where we do have any classes with 5 or more confirmed cases, which Herts Public Health class as an outbreak, we will advise that all children in that class have PCR tests. We will also advise that parents may wish to keep their child at home while being tested and send their child back if the result is negative, but this will be at the parent's discretion. It would be authorised absence in the short term as well.

This seems to us a proportionate and sensible response to the current situation, but we will continue to monitor cases daily.

We send our thoughts and best wishes to all of you who are currently affected by this virus and we wish those suffering with it a full and speedy recovery.

### **Charity work**

After reporting on Arlo and Zach's great charity fundraising work last week, I have another great piece of charity work by one of our children.

Grace G in Y2 and her family took part in the annual St Albans Sleep Out, held at Oaklands College. The event aims to raise awareness of homelessness in Hertfordshire. Grace and her family have raised £525 so far with class friends contributing £85 towards this amount, which is very supportive of them! So well done to Grace and everybody involved for raising money for a very worthwhile cause.



### Christmas lights, music and outdoor stalls

We will have a small, outdoor, Covid-friendly ‘happening’ at the end of the final Wednesday of term – 15th December. The orchestra and choirs will be led by Miss Wray and Miss Hayden in the upper school hall and we will have the doors open so that the music can ‘waft down’ to the school field where there will be a few outdoor stalls. It is not designed to be a long event – just a chance to have a quick drink and pick up a mince pie before going home. (There will be no return into the building.)

We just wanted to do something a bit festive before we break up!

### Table Tennis Success



I mentioned before half term that our table tennis boys’ team had won the St Albans and District Schools’ Competition. Today they have represented St Albans in the county finals and have finished as the seventh best team in the county! Congratulations to Jeremy, Zach, Oliver and Krish and thank you for representing our school so well.

Have a good weekend everybody,

Yours sincerely

Mr Farrugia

