



## HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

PDR/ACB

10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the last few days of term, I wish to take the opportunity to update you on a few operational issues I would like to bring to your attention please:

### Face Coverings

As you are already aware, but for your reassurance, face coverings are mandatory at all times inside the school building, unless we are eating or drinking. The only exception to this is for students or staff who have an approved medical exemption. You may recall, we brought this rule in to school in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of September, having seen a rise in infections up to that point. From the following week onwards, we saw a very marked and steady decline in infections and as such we remain convinced face coverings have a significant benefit.

### Car Parking

As a school located close to the town centre and surrounded by busy roads, we are aware that car parking is difficult, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times. However, in recent weeks we have had some concerned neighbours contacting us to ask that parents are considerate when parking around school. I realise that this issue is potentially only pertinent to a small group of parents, but please could I ask that you are careful when parking in the vicinity and not block access or restricted areas. My suggestion to all parents continues to be that students walk well away from school and arrange to meet parents further from the congested traffic which will speed up travel times. The manager at Morrisons is very happy for parents to pick-up and drop-off in their car park.

### Carol Concert – Thursday 16 December

Regrettably, you might be aware we have had to cancel the Prize Giving originally scheduled for next week due to covid concerns and risks which were difficult to mitigate against. The Carol Service is a very different event and easier to manage from a covid risk perspective. However, we are monitoring the situation on a daily basis and will make a final decision very early next week as to whether the event will run as planned.

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Headteacher: Mr P Roberts

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Final day – Friday 17 December

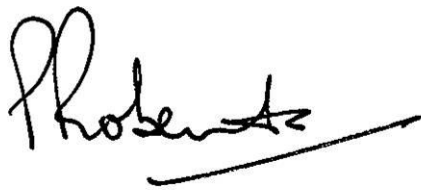
As is tradition, school will finish at 12.20 for all students, following a final assembly and exchanging festive greetings with form teachers and fellow students.

Return to school – Tuesday 4 January 2022

You may have heard that the DfE have instructed all schools to covid test students before their return to school after the Christmas break. We are currently putting a schedule together for this and we will communicate via a specific letter, instructions for this, before the end of term.

I will be writing to you later next week, with a review of the term, but I hope you find this operational letter helpful at this stage.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end that extends to the right.

Peter Roberts

Headteacher