



Friars Primary School & Nursery

Part of the Portico Academy Trust

Principal - Mr C. McClay

Vice Principal – Mr S. Roche

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CEO – Mrs C. Woolf

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

RE: School Reopening on Monday 8th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday the Prime Minister announced that all schools would reopen on Monday 8th March. This is obviously great news and we are all very much looking forward to having the children back in school once again. We really do hope that this will be the final big disruption in the children's school careers. From Monday 8th March attendance will be compulsory.

Of course, when we return we will all need to be extremely careful and work together in order to keep everyone as safe as possible. We know that the infection rate is falling quickly but at the same time, the rate in Shoeburyness is still above the national average. We cannot let our guard down when the end is almost in sight.

To this end, it is highly likely that when we return, we will be following the measures that were so successful back in the autumn term. We are confident that everyone will remember the systems that were in place before Christmas. We will wait to see if any further school's guidance is released before confirming our arrangements with you next week.

In his announcement, the Prime Minister confirmed the importance of testing in relation to schools reopening. Although the virus test is a little unpleasant, it will help us in our efforts to keep the virus away from our school. Primary school staff across the country are now taking part in twice per week asymptomatic testing. Following on from this, we will be asking for children to be tested before the return. As we shared in our recent newsletters, there are a number of COVID testing centres in the area. Further communication about testing will also follow.

We hope that the children enjoy their final two weeks of remote learning and that they were all excited to hear that Friars will be back in action on Monday 8th March. We will be in touch again next week.

Yours sincerely,

C. McClay

S. Roche

Mr. C. McClay
Principal

Mr. S. Roche
Vice-Principal