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**Headteacher:** Mrs Emma Anderson  
**Chair of Governors:** Mr Steve Chew

Our ref: CJ/SDN/RCY

Dear Parents/Carers

As we have come to the end of Half Term 3 we look forward with optimism that we will soon be able to have all our students in school. We started the Half Term looking forward to having all our wonderful students return to school after the Christmas break only for these plans to change within 24 hours. Very quickly we amended our plans and launched a combination of remote learning and in-school provision for key workers and vulnerable children. As the Half Term has progressed we have been so impressed with our students' commitment to their studies and engagement in school work despite the challenges of working remotely.

This is a good opportunity to reiterate our message from the first letter you received at the beginning of this Half Term – be rest assured that as ever Newfield School will continue to place each and every child at the centre of what we do. This letter includes important information at this mid-point of the academic year.

### **Testing Consent Data Collection**

As we move closer to a Government announcement during the week commencing 22 February 2021 on what the plans for wider re-opening will involve can you please complete the testing consent form on Edulink Forms or a paper copy if your son/daughter is accessing our in-school provision.

### **Free School Meals**

On Friday 29 January 2021 Sheffield City Council posted a Free Food Voucher for the February Half Term. Families that claim Free School Meals are eligible for a £20 food voucher to help over the February half term (£15 for food and £5 for bills). If you need any assistance with these vouchers please call 01142 734567, option 4, then option 3.

Mercia Learning Trust will be issuing the Free School Meal Vouchers for the week commencing 22 February and 1 March. If you need any assistance with these vouchers please contact [freeschoolmeals@merciatrust.co.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@merciatrust.co.uk).

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## **Remote Learning**

Following six weeks of hard work please make sure your child has a rest from remote learning over the holiday break. Encourage them to have time away from their screens and spend time getting lost in a good book, bake a cake, create an artistic masterpiece, going for a daily walk, run or cycle, completing a puzzle or even playing some board games!

Newfield School will be having an INSET day on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 and remote learning will re-commence on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. As always pupils should log into Show My Homework before 8.55am and follow their timetable and live lessons will be through Microsoft Teams as usual.

Thank you for all of your feedback and positive messages from the survey. Following further government announcements at the start of next Half Term we will be looking at how we adapt our offer moving forward. We will write to you again after the holiday break regarding plans for the next assessment week which will take place early next half term. If we don't return to school this will be run virtually.

## **Parental Feedback**

If you have any questions or queries about any other aspect of your child's education please contact us at [enquiries@newfield.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@newfield.sheffield.sch.uk) or pupils can email their teachers directly. We take great pride in working with our families and this is a cornerstone of all we do. Please also let us know if we are doing a good job. We have received numerous emails expressing thanks and gratitude for what we are doing. These are all being kept and will be shared amongst us all to remind us why we do it. A few of these positive messages can be seen below;

*'Just a big thank you to all the teachers. I appreciate all the hard work you are putting in under difficult circumstances. My daughter is managing to work really independently at home. The live lessons are really helpful and it was great to have a live tutor session today. The well-being phone-call was also very nice to have'*

*'We are really grateful for the hard work, structure and time the staff at Newfield have dedicated to supporting and providing online learning for our children. Thank you'*

*'Newfield is doing a fantastic job. Please pass on our thanks to all staff who are obviously working very hard'*

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## Key Dates

Date	Event
Monday 22 February	Trust INSET Day
Week Commencing Monday 1 March	Revision Week
Thursday 4 March	Y9 Parents' Evening/SLT Options Interviews (4:30pm to 6:30pm)
Friday 5 March	INSET Day and Y9 Parents' Evening/SLT Options Interviews (9:30am to 11:30am)
Week Commencing Monday 8 March	Assessment Week
Monday 8 March	Y9 Options video released
Wednesday 17 March	Y9 Options deadline
Friday 2 April	Good Friday

## A View to the Future

A story was posted online this week where children at the end of a live lesson all held up a card saying thank you to their teacher. These moments are what life teaches us; be kind to those around us and look after each other. This couldn't be more important at this present time. We will not be beaten; the roll out of the vaccination programme, the upcoming better weather and our collective efforts are all supporting a return to better times.

The Japanese writer Ryunosuke Akutagawa once said 'Individually we are one drop, together we are an ocean'. This is symbolic of our school community and as we continue this 'Allied Effort' with better times on the horizon; stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives.

Yours faithfully



Mr C Jenkinson  
Co-Headteacher



Mr S Dawson  
Co-Headteacher