Tuesday 9th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school! It was absolutely wonderful to have our children back in school yesterday and I was extremely impressed with how well they settled, how hard they worked and how sensibly they behaved. They are a real credit to you and to school.

**Face Masks on the School Site**
I continue to be really grateful for all of your support throughout this challenging time and am delighted that the vast majority of parents (apart from those with exemptions) are wearing face coverings at the start and end of the day. Please continue to do this in the coming weeks whilst also following our other guidance to keep everyone as safe as possible.

**Parking Reminder**
It is vitally important that all parents drive and park considerately and legally when dropping off and collecting their children. Already, we have had a number of cars parked on zigzags and double yellow lines. Traffic wardens have been asked to patrol the roads around school whenever they can at the start and end of the day to make sure that illegal and dangerous parking is addressed. Thank you to the majority of parents who do park considerately and do their best to make the roads around school safe for our children.

**Uniform**
With the majority of children having been off school since before Christmas, I fully understand that some of them will have grown out of parts of their uniform. Equally, I know that it is currently hard to source uniform from shops as they appear to have limited stock and non-essential retail is not yet open. I also know that we have a number of families experiencing financial hardship at the moment.

Wherever possible, I would ask parents to send their children into school in full uniform. If you can’t get certain items of uniform at the moment for any reason, please make sure your child is wearing a suitable, plain alternative for school.
PE Kit
On PE days, we are currently asking for children to come into school wearing sports kit. In order for children to stay warm, this may need to be different to their usual PE kit that they bring into school. Please make sure that what they wear is suitable and appropriate for a day in school. We would recommend:

✓ Trainers or pumps
✓ Jogging bottoms or leggings
✓ A plain t-shirt
✓ A plain jumper

School Dinners
Yesterday we launched our new dinner system. Parents have been asked to pre-order their child’s dinner choices online and pay for the meals at the time of booking (free school meal children won’t need to pay but will still need to pre-order.)

If parents have not pre-booked a dinner for their child, they will be given a sandwich option at lunchtime as the kitchen are now cooking dinners to order depending on how many have been pre-ordered. This is to reduce waste, reduce queuing times in the dinner hall and to ensure that all children are able to have their chosen dinner for the day.

If you have any queries or require any further support, please contact Sarah Clarke by emailing schooldinners@uplandsmanor.sandwell.sch.uk.

Work for Children Isolating at Home
If children are having to isolate at home due to being in contact with a positive coronavirus test outside of school, their school work will be set through our website and can be found at www.uplandsmanor.sch.uk/Page/Category/work-for-children-not-in-school. Teachers can continue to be contacted for support and feedback via the year group email addresses that have already been shared with you (for example, year3@uplandsmanor.sandwell.sch.uk.)

If we have a positive coronavirus case in one of our bubbles in school, we will have to close that bubble and ask all necessary staff and children to isolate. If this happens, work and activities will be set through Google Classroom in the same way that it was during lockdown.

Letters and information are usually sent out by email and text message. Please check that we have your correct contact details if you are not receiving communications from school.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Dickinson
Head Teacher