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# Blackminster Middle School

## School Bulletin

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Dear parents and carers,

It's been lovely to welcome (almost!) everyone back to school this week. After all the absence and disruption last half term, I'm certainly pleased to have everyone back and I'm hoping for a much calmer few weeks.

I have a few reminders and notices for you.

### **COVID-19**

I'd like to encourage all students to continue testing and reporting their results twice a week. Guidance from the NHS says that people who have had COVID should not undertake lateral flow tests for the next 90 days, but for anyone else this really is an important way of identifying people who might not have symptoms but who could be spreading the virus.

If your child has any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (temperature, cough, change in taste or smell) or of the new variants (in children this is often headaches, nausea or sickness) please book them in for a PCR test. We'll be continuing with our current protective measures in school so your child will need a mask to wear in corridors, and also will need warm clothing as doors and windows are open to ensure ventilation.

### **Bouncing Back program**

You will have received a letter about the Bouncing Back program. This is two sessions, delivered by trained workers from Action For Children, designed to help build young people's resilience and coping strategies. The sessions will be taking place for all classes in turn, starting next week. We think the sessions will be really helpful for our students, so please do return the consent form if you'd like your child to have this opportunity. A copy can be downloaded from our website.

### **INSET day**

School will be closed to students on **Wednesday 17th November**.

### **Children in Need**

Students have requested that we support Children in Need day this year, so on **Friday 19th November** we will be holding a non-uniform day to raise money for this wonderful charity. Donations can be made through ParentPay as usual.

**New catering partners**

Our new catering partners, Miquill, are working very hard and feedback from students has been excellent so far. If you'd like your child to purchase food at school, please pay for it through ParentPay. Menus and price lists are available on our website.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. McAvoy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a loop at the end.

Executive Headteacher