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27<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Half term is here**

The first half term of the year has come to a close and, without doubt, everyone is ready for a break! The Surfleet team (staff, children and parents) have really had to dig deep over the last 7 weeks to deal with necessary sudden changes and a high level of absence. I would like to extend my thanks to all of you who helped keep the school going through this difficult period and I am delighted to say that we now do not have a single Covid case in school. I am really proud of the children and staff for keeping the learning going and making the school feel as normal as possible. Hopefully we can continue with all the wonderful things we have planned for the second half of the Autumn Term and start to hold more of the community events we all love so much. Thanks again for doing your bit to support us in our time of need.

### **Head of School cover**

Unfortunately, I am scheduled to be absent from school at the beginning of November due to a planned minor operation. It is really important that this does not have an impact on the school, so I am pleased to report that Mrs Sarah Marshall will be covering my role in its entirety until I am back at work and able to fulfil all of my duties. Mrs Marshall is an experienced teacher and school leader at all levels as well as being an SLE who has supported multiple schools with their unique development. Without doubt, she will bring yet more experience and expertise to the school and support us with our journey of improvement. I have been fortunate to have had a great deal of time with Mrs Marshall to support her in this role and she has also had the opportunity to teach the Y3/4 children, plus meet the staff. I genuinely couldn't wish for a more qualified and more suitable person to lead the school in my absence and I have no doubt that you will form the same view.

### **Plans up to Christmas**

As there is a great deal of uncertainty nationally at the moment about Covid cases, restrictions and something called 'Plan B', I will be in touch again in early November to outline what the plans are for school and events. Being an optimist, I hope that I am informing you of good news. Fingers crossed!



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Here's to hoping you all have a safe and happy half term break and we look forward to seeing you and your children again on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Lunches**

Miss Meek has put the orders through for next week's lunches. Please do not forget that you need to order by noon on the Tuesday before the following week's lunches. Please do not now go in to order for next week as the numbers have already been calculated and sent to the kitchen.

Kind regards



Mr R Chipperfield  
Head of School



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