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Coronavirus Update

2nd March 2020

Dear Parents,

As you might be aware five local schools closed today related to the Coronavirus. The information we have at the moment is that these closures have all been precautionary measures (e.g. while individuals are tested) and as yet there are no confirmed cases.

To reassure you, we are constantly evaluating the risk for St Margaret's. As such we are in regular contact with Torbay Local Authority, the Department for Education and Public Health England. In addition, we have implemented additional cleaning measures in school, provided alcohol hand gels round the school and have raised the priority of hand washing and good hygiene with children and staff.

You might be interested to share this short child-friendly video with your children at home should you think it appropriate. Although the facts are already out of date (it was created on 21.1.20) it does have some sensible and reassuring messages that might be useful for your child to hear.

<https://youtu.be/oMHacLHchI0>

For your information, today the DfE launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19. Please help us in sharing simple and effective hand hygiene messages.

Updates on COVID-19 can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Currently we are business as normal. If there is any change to this, we will be in contact at the very earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Hughes (Headteacher)

KINDNESS RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY ASPIRATION