



Knowsley Council

22 October 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Safety During Half Term

October half term is usually a time for family activities and to enjoy the Autumn period. However, this year, things will be completely different.

As you know, Knowsley (as well as the wider Liverpool City Region) has been placed in the 'Very High' (or Tier 3) alert level in the Government's new three-tier system – the highest level.

What this means is that tighter restrictions have been imposed in an attempt to bring our very high levels of positive COVID-19 cases down.

Since September, all schools across the borough have worked hard to provide safe learning environments for your child / children and for important teaching and learning to continue throughout these challenging times.

We are all working hard to bring our cases levels down, so that some kind of normality can resume, but we all need to play our part by knowing the rules and following the rules.

To try and prevent the further spread of the virus, I am writing to all parents and carers to ask you to consider the current circumstances when planning your half term activities.

With Halloween approaching, participation in the traditional 'Trick or Treating' is being discouraged. Parents are advised that Trick or Treating carries an increased risk of infection by its nature, with significant and unnecessary social mixing between many different households.

There are lots of other COVID-safe activities you can do at home including online activities organised by Prescott Museum and Kirkby Gallery, photo competitions, arts and craft activities suggested by Knowsley libraries as well as pumpkin colouring sheets to download – visit www.knowsleynews.co.uk (search Halloween fun) to find out more.

Organised firework displays are also cancelled across the region. You may have plans to arrange your own firework display at home. Please ensure you have a safe evening by following the Firework Code – details are on Knowsley News (search Firework Code).

Please remember it is currently against the law to meet with members of other households outside of your support or childcare bubble in a home or private garden, as well as restaurants, cafes and all other indoor spaces including homes.

We know that COVID-19 is easily transmitted from person to person so our restrictions focus on limiting interactions with others wherever possible.

Very High level regulations also advise that you reduce the number of journeys you do, and wherever possible avoid travelling outside of the Liverpool City Region (which includes Halton,



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Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral) unless for essential purposes such as to go to work, for education or for caring responsibilities.

I understand that this message will be disappointing for families but for this year, I would ask that you consider how you can celebrate safely within your own household this half term.

Thank you for your understanding and on-going support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Albertina". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Albertina

Assistant Executive Director (Education & Early Help)