Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to let you know that a number of children and staff at our school are absent with the symptoms of Norovirus. Many children have been vomiting and/or have had diarrhoea. Also, many children have flu-like illness (cough, headache, fever and body aches). As a result of this, we are following advice from Public Health England (PHE) West Midlands on managing the outbreak, including increasing cleaning throughout the school. This means that school will be CLOSED tomorrow, Wednesday 11th December, for the additional cleaning to take place. School is already closed for Polling on Thursday 12th December, and cleaning will continue to take place on this day too.

If your child is unwell with symptoms of Norovirus or flu, please make sure they stay off school until they are fully recovered. If your child has vomited or had diarrhoea, they must stay away from school until 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped.

You can lower the risk of passing on viruses like this by washing your hands, before preparing food or eating - and remember to wash them thoroughly after going to the toilet. Please do check that your children and all members of your family and also visitors to your home are washing their hands with warm water and soap.

If you have symptoms of the flu, use a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and dispose of it by throwing it in the bin or flushing it down the toilet.

**Back to School on Friday 13th December**
Children MUST return to school on Friday 13th December. This is Christmas Jumper Day so we hope to see many children wearing their Christmas jumpers, and it is also the day of our Christmas lunch. We look forward to seeing all children back at school on Friday to continue with their learning and to take part in the planned Christmas activities.

**KS1 Christmas Performance**
Due to closing at such short notice, the KS1 Performance needs to be rearranged. This will now take place on Monday 16th December at 2pm.

If you need any further advice, you can phone NHS 111 or Public Health England on 0300 303 8162

Yours faithfully,

Mrs O’Boyle
Head Teacher