**St Gregory’s C E Primary School**

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**Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Field**

 **“Where learning has no limits”**

24th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you are all managing to stay fit and healthy and are keeping in touch with loved ones.

Following on from last nights’ announcement from the Government - it is critical that we all follow the advice and remain with our families in our homes unless absolutely essential to travel or go out.

We have been ‘caring ‘for a few families over the past couple of days – the children have been amazing and the staff dedication second to none.

As we move into tomorrow and next week – **PLEASE** can I ask that you **DO NOT** send your child to school unless you are a family with x2 key workers. Many local schools have already closed and there is now a confirmed case of ‘Corona virus’ in Gillingham. The Primary school was requested to shut yesterday as one of their parents has contracted it. This will have a huge impact on the school as a community – staff, parents, children, families. It is vitally important that I support the families of our school but also have a big consideration for my staff and their families.

Schools are an **EMERGENCY** childcare provision, and if children can be left safely at home because there is adequate care – this is what **MUST** happen.

It is essential to reduce the spread of the transmission. Therefore school is ‘open’ but literally we only want the absolute minimum number of pupils, so that I can deploy staff and therefore expose the minimum number of children, staff and their families to this extreme risk.

**PLEASE let me know via text message to the school mobile number by 5pm – if you still require ‘childcare’ otherwise I will be closing the school as of today. If you are a family with x2 key critical workers – I am happy to try and staff this even if it is only for x1 or 2 days a week.**

**I want to support where necessary in this time of need.**

**School mobile: 07756179096**

**THANK YOU**

**STAY SAFE and look after your loved ones – even if it is just a phone call or doorstep conversation. I know this is hugely important for me to just hear the voices of my family – although I can’t see them.**

***Take Care***

**Debbie Field**