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Headteacher Mr Kevin Moloney

Dear parents and carers,

Good ventilation is an important tool to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19. The Department for Education is supporting schools to make sure our classrooms are well-ventilated by providing us with carbon dioxide (CO₂) monitors. CO₂ levels as measured by these monitors are a proxy for good ventilation. As teachers and children breathe out CO₂, the monitors can identify if it has built up in our rooms, which can indicate that ventilation needs improving.

We have been using these monitors in our school. Monitoring CO₂ levels help us to assess the ventilation and determine when we need to let in some fresh air. This doesn't mean that all the windows need to be wide open all the time or that rooms need to be cold. In our school, we have found that opening windows when classrooms are empty or partially opening windows, rather than opening them fully is sufficient to ensure that all of our classrooms are well ventilated when lessons are taking place, helping us to balance good ventilation with keeping classrooms warm.

You may be aware that some schools are using air cleaning units in their classrooms. Although air cleaning units remove virus particles from the air, they do not improve ventilation and are not necessary in rooms which are well ventilated. After using our CO₂ monitors regularly during the autumn term, we are confident that all our classrooms are well ventilated, and so we don't need to use any air cleaning units in our school.

For more information on how the DfE is supporting education settings with ventilation, please read this [blog](#) on the Education Hub. You can also find more information about CO₂ monitoring in education and childcare settings in this [video](#) from Cath Noakes, Professor of Environmental Engineering for Buildings at the University of Leeds.

Kin regards,
Mr. K. Moloney
Headteacher



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SCHOOL

