

Dear Families and Staff,

Thank you for your partnership as we continue to navigate the impact of COVID-19 on our community.

**As you know, an individual from the Preschool 2 room at our North Andover school has a confirmed case of COVID-19. The individual with the confirmed case continues to experience no symptoms, but we have confirmed that the individual has had close contact with others from our school community. Given this unique situation, the North Andover Department of Public Health, as well as our state licensor, are still in deliberations regarding how and when we can reopen the school. Given that we do not have a specific timeline as of 2:30 pm on Friday afternoon, we will remain closed through this coming Monday, November 2.**

**Whether it is over the weekend or sometime on Monday, we will provide an updated timeline for reopening as soon as that timeline has been communicated to us by the North Andover Department of Public Health.**

Please note - because the confirmed case in our school arose in an individual who continues to experience no symptoms, and who we know had close contact with others from our school this week, **we have requested that all of our North Andover staff undergo COVID testing prior to returning to work. As of this writing, nine of our twelve staff members have already been tested, and of the nine, two have already received their results, both of which were negative.**

**We strongly encourage families to seek out COVID testing as well.** We are grateful that an asymptomatic case was detected and that we now all have the time to take responsible action to further build trust and confidence.

#### ***Next Steps for Little Sprouts***

We take COVID-19 very seriously. During this COVID closure, our North Andover school will undergo a thorough cleaning and we will remain in contact with local health officials. Again, as of this writing, our entire school will remain closed until Monday, November 2 at the very least. **Whether it is over the weekend or sometime on Monday, we will provide an updated timeline for reopening as soon as that timeline has been communicated to us by the North Andover Department of Public Health.**

#### ***Next Steps for Your Family***

Again, we urge you to contact your regular healthcare provider to inquire about next steps for you and your loved ones. You can also access all of Massachusetts's most updated information regarding COVID-19 testing easily online at:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/about-covid-19-testing>.

For those members of our school community who do **undergo COVID testing while out, we ask that you please share any findings of confirmed cases with us.**

If you'd like copies of our COVID-informed payment, closure, and/or sick policies, please reach out to your director. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

*Melissa*

Melissa Leger, President, Little Sprouts