



BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Belong Believe Achieve

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Dear Parents / Carers,

I am writing to you all to give some updates for the end of term, following the government's update to schools on Tuesday afternoon this week. We feel very fortunate that we have had no positive cases of COVID in our school community to date and are keen to support families and staff, within the parameters we have, to be able to enjoy the Christmas that everyone has planned.

Last Week of Term

We have received a number of enquiries regarding attendance during the last week of term. All pupils are required to attend school until Friday 18th December. However, I totally understand that as we approach Christmas, families will be doing all that they can to avoid being in self isolation over the holiday period. For that reason, if families decide to isolate during the last week of term, for whatever reason, there will be no penalties issued for non-attendance. Please email office@banwellprimary.co.uk if you intend to isolate so that we can update the registers.

Please note that if families choose to self-isolate, we will be unable to issue a refund for Christmas Lunch as the order has now been placed.

Last Day of Term Arrangements

As you are no doubt aware, the Government has just suggested that schools might move one of their allocated INSET days to next Friday 18th December in order to close early for Christmas and for staff to undertake training. As this is very short notice and could potentially inconvenience parents/carers, we will be open to staff and pupils on the 18th December. However, we are asking that parents/carers collect their children after lunch on this day please, if possible. This would give us an additional half a day's breathing space in the event that any groups needed to self-isolate, once we have broken up.

For Y6, Y4 and Y2 please collect at 1.05 from the usual place and for Y5, Y3, Y1 and Reception please collect at 1.15pm. If parents are unable to make arrangements to collect the children at lunchtime then we will of course keep them in school until the usual finish time.

Our planned INSET day will take place on Monday 4th January 2021, so pupils will need to return on Tuesday 5th January.

Holiday Isolation Notifications

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 after the end of term **please notify the school BY EMAIL** to the school office address: office@banwellprimary.co.uk. Please do not leave an answerphone message as the school phone will not be monitored over the holiday.

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) have been directed to remain contactable for six days after we break up, to assist with contact tracing / notifications for any positive cases of COVID-19 that occur *after* the end of



term. This is so that we can notify staff and parents/carers if there has been contact at school with a person who has subsequently tested positive.

To avoid any SLT staff having to attend school after the end of term, we will send an email to you if your child has been in contact with a positive case. Within this email there will also be a letter attached which will give you self-isolation guidance to follow.

I hope these decisions may help to make things a little easier for families during these unprecedented times.

Best wishes,
Claire

Claire Pocock
Headteacher

