11th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to confirm that our end of term date remains as Friday 18th December 2020.

Covid-19 Symptoms/End of Term

We are now in a time frame where should a self-isolation be necessary, this will affect Christmas. Consequently, it is particularly important that we are extremely vigilant to symptoms of Covid-19. We are all familiar with the 3 main coronavirus symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new and continuous cough
- A loss of smell or taste

If your child is exhibiting any of these, they must not attend school and you should arrange a test for them. With the approach of the Christmas holidays, I feel it is worth raising awareness of the secondary, or pre-Covid, symptoms. These are:

- A shortness of breath
- A loss of appetite
- Muscle aches
- A sore throat
- A persistent headache
- Nasal congestion
- Diarrhoea, nausea and/or vomiting

Clearly, these are often simply a cold or a tummy upset, and we have seen a great many of these during the term that are exactly that and not coronavirus. However, we ask that you maintain high vigilance over the next 7 days, and if you have any doubt, please do not send your child to school, and instead book a test. In this way, we will prevent any late spread of the virus. In many cases, we are seeing a rapid return of test results, often within 24 hours, so if that continues the impact on schooling will be minimised. Thank you for your cooperation with this; it helps us keep our school community as safe as possible.
Arrangements for Reporting Positive COVID-19 Test Results over the Holidays

Schools have a responsibility to report positive Covid cases to Public Health England and the Local Outreach Response Team (LORT). Therefore if your child develops symptoms on Saturday 19th or Sunday 20th, it is important that you get a test and inform the school if it is positive.

We will follow LORT advice to identify close contacts and instruct them to self-isolate.

A member of the school Leadership Team will monitor school emails during the first week of the Christmas holidays. You must inform us if you receive a positive notification and your child displayed symptoms on Saturday 19th or Sunday 20th December.

If you child tests positive, but symptoms did not begin until Monday 21st December, then you do not need to notify school but the household must isolate for 14 days from the first sign of symptoms.

Reporting Positive Cases

If you receive notification of a positive Covid-19 test for your child, then please continue to report this by emailing the school office at office@bredon.worcs.sch.uk. Please write ‘Covid-19 Positive Test Result’ in the title bar. We will need the following information:

1. Child’s name.
2. Child’s year group and form.
3. Date of test result.
4. Date symptoms started.
5. Preferred number for us to contact you on.

Return to School in January

After the Christmas period, from 23rd to 27th December, it is likely there will be a spike of cases. It is therefore very important that pupils do not return to school if they are displaying any Covid related symptoms, have been asked to self-isolate or anyone in their household has tested positive.

Please note that Monday 4th January 2021 is a TED Day and school will open to pupils on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Friday 18th December: BHA ‘Christmas’ Day

We have a host of events planned for our last day of school. Pupils can wear a Christmas jumper instead of their blazers (donation to Save the Children via ParentPay). It is also Christmas lunch day.

Stay safe and well.

Debbie West
Headteacher