



Christmas Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all of your support during the Autumn term and for following the COVID restrictions and procedures we have had to initiate since our full return in September. Although there are a variety of restrictions now to our normal school day, we intend to pull out all of the 'COVID secure' stops we can, to make sure our children still get to enjoy the exciting run up to Christmas.

Although we cannot ask our normal theatre company to stage our Christmas Panto, due to the need to stay in 'bubbles' and socially distance, the children will still get to see a 'Virtual panto' from the safety of their classrooms. We will also still be celebrating Christmas jumper day and having a Christmas lunch with crackers and fun. We are going to be making Christmas decorations and having our yearly 'Tree dressing' celebrations, albeit a year group at a time and have lots of lovely activities planned in the run up to Christmas.

We will be breaking up on Thursday the 17th December this year due to a PD day on Friday 18th December and children can be collected from 1pm that day. We look forward to sharing this lovely season with you and all the festive fun it brings.

Key Dates for December 2020

Friday 11th December —Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch

Tuesday 15th December— Afternoon Nursery Christmas Party

Wednesday 16th December— EYFS parties

Thursday 17th December —Christmas parties for KS1 and KS2 (AM)

Early finish from 1pm. **Please note their will be no afternoon Nursery on Thursday 17th December**



Return to school—Monday 4th January

Christmas card exchange



If children are wanting to send their friends Christmas cards this year, we are going to have post boxes in each year group. All cards will need to have the recipients name and class number on and need to be in the academy and posted by Friday 11th December. This gives us the necessary time to quarantine the Christmas cards and we can then deliver them from Monday 14th December. Many thanks

Virtual Carol Service

This year we will be recording the children singing their songs for our annual carol concert. We will be joined by the other schools from Tees Valley education and the video will be shared with parents on social media.



WHAT TO DO IF...

Guidance for parents and carers

if your child or another household member has COVID-19 symptoms or their child has been in contact with a confirmed case.

Government guidance is subject to change at short notice - if in doubt refer to official websites shown below.



YOUR CHILD HAS SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS

If your child has coronavirus symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

DO NOT send your child to school

Inform School ASAP

Get a test now

www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or phone NHS 119
Tell school what the test result is as soon as you know.

Follow 'stay at home' guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection' www.bit.ly/stayathomeguidance

www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

SOMEONE ELSE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS SYMPTOMS

If someone in your household develops symptoms, they get a test. Other members of their household self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

DO NOT send your child to school

Inform School ASAP

Negative

If the test is negative;

- the person with symptoms can stop self-isolating, but may have another illness
- other members of the household can stop self-isolating, so your child can return to school.

Positive

If the test is positive;

- the person with symptoms self-isolates for at least 10 days from symptom onset and follows 'stay at home guidance'
- other members of the household continue self-isolating for the full 14 days

DO NOT send your child to school

www.bit.ly/stayathomeguidance

YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH A CONFIRMED CASE OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Contacts who need to self-isolate will be notified and advised by the NHS Test and Trace service. Children under 18 will be contacted by phone wherever possible and asked for their parent or guardian's permission to continue the call. If you or your child have not been notified, your child does not need to self-isolate. If your child's contact is waiting for a test result, you do not need to self-isolate.

If your child has been informed that they are a contact of a person who has had a positive test result for COVID-19;

DO NOT send your child to school

- **Inform School ASAP**
- your child must self-isolate at home for 14 days from the date of their last contact with the person who tested positive
- follow the 'stay at home' guidance
- Your child is at risk of developing COVID-19 for the next 14 days.
- Even if your child never develop symptoms, they can still be infected and pass the virus on without knowing it.
- You should not arrange a test for your child unless they develop symptoms of COVID-19.
- If your child does not have symptoms of COVID-19, other people in your household do not need to self-isolate.

www.bit.ly/guidanceforcontacts

Christmas parties

Thursday 17th December



Children can wear party outfits if they wish and we will provide games for them to play with on Thursday 17th December, which is Christmas party day. Due to COVID restrictions we ask that you do not send any toys in from home this year as we need to minimise the risk of contamination and reduce the amount of contact or sharing of items.

Contact Information during COVID



Please can we ask that you inform us immediately if you change your phone number or your address. For safety reasons and due to COVID19 it is vital that we can contact you whilst your child is in the academy.

Although we are experiencing very unusual times presently and are all unsure as to what the next few months will bring, one thing is certain. It is in times like these when you learn to appreciate what is really important. - Time with family and making memories. It is with this in mind that the staff and children of Brambles Primary Academy wish you all a very Merry Christmas and hope to welcome you back safely on 4th January 2021 .

