

Belong. Believe. Be Proud.

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Ref: NJ/SAH

December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

With Christmas just around the corner, I write to you reflecting on what has been a very different start to the year here in King Alfred's. Although it has been different, and like you, we have faced challenges, I am thrilled that, as a school, we have kept our focus and ensured that our students continue to be taught both face to face and remotely, they have continued to make progress and equally importantly, they have felt safe and reassured whilst in school. I also wanted to update you on some important information in the run up to the end of term next week.

Last Day of Term

We received guidance from Central Government this week regarding breaking up for Christmas on Thursday 17th December 2020. As you know, we have been mindful of adhering to government guidance throughout this time and so I need to inform you that our last day of term will be **Thursday 17th December 2020**. We will finish at the normal time at the end of the school day.

Any student who was due to receive a free school meal on Friday 18th can collect a packed lunch from the canteen at the end of the day on Thursday 17th December.

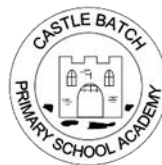
Important Government Guidance Regarding Positive COVID Cases in the Holidays

During the Christmas period, we will still be operating track and trace in line with Government guidance as the school has been asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation periods as necessary. This means that if a student develops Coronavirus symptoms during the first 48 hours after their last day in school, and these symptoms lead to a positive test result, parents must inform the school.

This means **if your child develops symptoms on Friday the 18th or Saturday the 19th and then following testing, receives a positive test result, you must contact the school, either on the number below or by email info@tkasa.org.uk**. This is because the student may have been infectious whilst in school. If this is the case please call **01278 764086**. **This number should only be used in the case of reporting a positive coronavirus test.**

In the event that a positive case is identified within your child's bubble, we will need to inform you that your son/daughter needs to self-isolate which we will do by sending you a text. We will also put a letter with full details on the website. We would ask all parents to keep an eye on the website for any updates.

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Registered office address: Priory Community School, Queensway, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset, BS22 6BP



Where more than 48 hours have elapsed since their last day in school and a student develops symptoms, **the school does not need to be contacted**. In this case, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, schools do not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term.

Reverse Advent

We introduced our Reverse Advent on our website at the beginning of December (please see the presentation if you have not already done so). Thank you to those of you who have already donated. The Reverse Advent is a way in which we can support our local food bank. Every day in December, when the bell goes for tutor time, there are trolleys on each entrance into school where students can place their food donations. These items will be collected at the end of term and will be taken to the local food bank to be distributed within the community. We have been thrilled with the donations so far and we want to make this as special for the community as we can, as I know that many in our community have faced many challenges this year.

Christmas Gifts and Cards

This is the time of year when traditionally many teachers will be given cards or even gifts by some parents and students. The generosity of parents at this time has never ceased to amaze me and, as someone who has been teaching for some years, I can look back on receiving cards/gifts from people as a thank you, over many years. This year, however, will need to be different. We will not be able to accept cards or gifts from students as we are limiting the exchanging of items from person to person in school as part of our COVID restrictions. If any parent would like to send a thank you to a teacher, then of course, we would be pleased to receive it by email. Any parent can email the main school using info@tkasa.org.uk and we will be pleased to pass on your seasons' greetings to individual teachers for you. Alternatively donating an item to the food bank would be appreciated by all staff.

Next Term – January 2021

The new term begins on **Monday 4th January 2021** at the usual time. It is worth noting that we are not planning any changes to the way in which we currently operate as we continue to adhere to the government guidelines. For students, this will mean there will be no changes to the bubbles and zones that we have in place currently, also students will be required to use the hand sanitizer on entrance to the buildings and the wearing of masks in areas where it is difficult to socially distance, remains in force in the same way as it does now.

It goes without saying that I am incredibly grateful for your support this year and I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you a Happy Christmas in whatever form it takes this year, and a healthy New Year.

Stay safe!

Yours faithfully



Nathan Jenkins
Principal