

Moss Side Primary School

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Friday 11th December 2020



Dear Moss Side Community,

A most strange term in a most strange year is drawing to a close...

Closure

We have been in the unfortunate position of needing to close our Year 4 bubble today. We know the impact that this has on everybody but we must continue to follow the Public Health rules. I know that many of you will be aware that there has been news today that self-isolation has been reduced to 10 days - I will seek confirmation of this from the local authority before confirming the dates with Year 4.

Please can I re-affirm the need to **keep children at home if they are in any way under the weather**. We have been required to send pupils home again this week, often not long after entering school. We know that it is a tough call but, following the experiences of the last month, it is evident that the early symptoms of COVID for children in school have not always been the big three. The Public Health advice we received was for any pupils with illness (or feeling under the weather) NOT to attend school.

It is also worth considering, even more so at present, that - should the isolation period be ten days for contact with a positive case - this will stretch over Christmas should these contacts be in the latter part of next week. Erring on the side of caution with regards to any illness is another measure that we can all take to reduce the likelihood of this.

Christmas Events

A reminder of next week's festivities and the relevant dates. Although we have needed to do lots of things slightly differently to normal, we want to try and provide some Christmas cheer for our school community following a very challenging year for all.

Own Clothes

Pupils can wear their own clothes for the final week of term. Please note the special theme on Monday, after that it is up to you what you wear. This is because we are likely to be outside for periods next week as much as possible, so comfy, warm clothes are most suitable.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Monday, pupils are asked to donate to Save the Children,

in return for wearing a Christmas jumper to school (or other Christmas clothing or just Christmas colours if you do not have any of the first two options). The House Captains explained further in today's assembly. Any donations will be collected in the class 'pot' and we will count this later in the week.

We will also have Christmas dinner hot sandwiches on the same day for any dinner pupils (or sandwich pupils who ordered by the deadline).

Christmas 'performances'

We have tried to ensure all classes do something festive. If the clips are small enough, we will post these direct onto the Class Dojo feed. If they are too large, we will send an alternative link to a 'hidden' webpage, Google Drive or similar.

The performances should be ready next week. In all cases, please treat these in the same way as any videos taken at a live school performance - **they are for parents to view and should not be shared online in any way**.

Panto

We will hopefully stream a panto at some point in the week instead of our annual visit from Altru Theatre this year.



Christmas trails

Christmas challenges based around the Moss Side grounds.

Christmas Games and Activities

Pupils will stay within their bubbles, playing some games outside or in the hall.

Celebratory Food

As a 'well done' to all the pupils, every child will be given a couple of snack treats and a drink in class.

Jamie's fact of the Week

Which was the most valuable of the gifts that the Three Wise Men gave to baby Jesus. Was it gold, frankincense or myrrh?

Please remember our request that cards/presents etc do not come into school this year - this was a difficult decision but one we feel errs on the side of caution for all.

End of Term

Parents will be aware of the important letter sent out via Class Dojo earlier in the week. This re-confirmed that school closes at the **end of the day on Friday 18th December**. We re-open **Monday 4th January 2021**.

It also explained the procedure for contact tracing during the first few days of the holidays. We obviously hope not to be in that position, but families should be aware that any positive cases within class bubbles between now and the end of the term will still result in pupils being asked to self-isolate even if that is part of the Christmas holidays (we are seeking confirmation for whether this is 10 or 14 days). Public Health England have asked us to pass this information on to parents. **Please check the letter carefully, especially if your child develops symptoms after school has closed.**

Uniform

Parents will also have received notice, this week, that Delta Wool shop is no longer supplying school uniform in the new year. They have a sale on current uniform stock, should any parents wish to pick up any bargains.

We will have a new uniform supplier in the new year and

Stars of the Week	
YR	Jaiden Birch for trying really hard in our Christmas songs and dances.
YR1	Juliette Hook for always trying her best in and out of school.
Y1/2	Penny Billsborough for great singing and dancing this week.
Y2	Lily Geldard-Waring for wonderful acting in our nativity play.
Y3	Lucas Meehan for fabulous writing this week - well done!!
Y4	Charlie Dargie for her crafting skills, completing her origami snowflake and then helping others.
Y5	Harry Torbett for excellent ideas for our non-chronological reports and always presenting his work with his neatest handwriting.
Y6	Molly Key for super fractions work .
WH	Red

uniform designs will remain the same - we just need somebody new to make and sell it!

Jamie's fact of the Week

Myrrh was the most valuable - worth 5 times as much as gold!

COVID-19 Illness

Should your child develop any of the main three symptoms of COVID-19 (new, continuous cough; high temperature; loss of taste or smell) they will not be able to attend school. Families should follow public health advice and households should self isolate, book a test for members of the house with symptoms and keep school informed of the test date and outcome. **All absence, whether COVID-19 related or not, should be communicated to the front desk via telephone.**

Please reference the flowchart sent out via Dojo if you are unsure what to do.

If any tests come back positive it will require at least one bubble, or in some cases a blob, to isolate and stay away from school: in Mrs Swift and Miss Jones' class, for example, given the nature of our department it is probable both classes would need to isolate should there be a positive tests. It is likely, in this event, that such a closure will need to be arranged quickly and we **will inform parents via Dojo**.

Stay safe,

Mr Wright