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Dear Parents,

## Final week of term, w/c: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020

I am writing to inform you of some changes we are making for the final four days of term: Monday 14<sup>th</sup>-Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. The rationale behind the changes is that we tighten, as much as we can, all the safety measures in place to reduce the risk of getting a positive case of coronavirus during the last week of term. The impact were your child to either get Covid that week or have to isolate if they have been in bubble with someone else who gets it, is extremely significant, i.e. the whole of the Christmas period would be spent in isolation, i.e. 14 days. So, please work with us to prevent this happening.

There are two main changes:

1. We will be switching to **class bubbles** for that week. So, children will not be mixing *inside* with children from the other class in the cohort.
2. We are **closing wrap around care** just for those four days, so this is both Breakfast and After School Club. This is not an easy decision, but again, we need to reduce the risk. Having children in different bubbles whilst in wrap around care to their daytime bubble brings additional risk.

If we do not make these changes the following scenario could happen:

Frank is in Year 4 so is part of the Year 4 cohort bubble in the daytime then also attends After School Club. In ASC he is in the Year 3/4 bubble. Frank starts to show symptoms on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December (the last day of term). He goes for a test and it comes back positive. We would have to notify all of the Year 4 cohort, both classes, as well as all the children from Year 3 who attend After School Club in his Yr. 3/4 ASC bubble to isolate until 31<sup>st</sup> December- 14 days from Frank showing the symptoms. So, sadly the reality could be that up to 75 children would need to isolate and 7 or 8 members of staff.

With our changes of switching to a class bubble and closing wrap around care: Frank's class would have to isolate, so 30 children and 3 staff. As you can see, the impact would be significantly reduced.

Children will still be doing all the fun Christmas activities I outlined in my previous letter but wouldn't be mixing *inside* with other classes.

We also ask that parents continue to not send their children to school if they are unwell. You would be surprised at the number of children we send home immediately as parents have sent their child in with a cough and a bit of a temperature. Please, please, please follow the Government and NHS advice.

Thank you again in advance for your understanding and support. Let's work together to ensure everyone can spend the 2 week Christmas break free of isolation.

Best wishes,

Mrs Sarah Horbury-Jakeman  
Head Teacher