Thursday 10th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may be aware from the news, that the Department for Education (DfE) is suggesting that schools could have a training day on Friday 18th December, the last day of term. As this suggestion has taken place at a late stage in the term, I wanted to inform you that we **DO NOT** intend to change the end of term date in this way, so school will be open as usual on Friday 18th December. We already have activities organised and we know that a late change could be very difficult for our families in terms of childcare.

We expect all children to be in school on Friday 18th December unless:

* Your child is in Year 5 or Year 6 (their bubbles are closed and they will not return to school until Tuesday 5th January)
* Your child is isolating due to a positive Covid case in the family
* Your child is genuinely ill

On a separate issue, we would like to make everyone aware of the arrangements in case of any Covid-19 cases during the school holidays and so it would be helpful if you could make yourselves familiar with the following guidance from the DfE:

• For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. \*

 • Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. \*If you need to contact school about a positive Covid test result, after the term ends, please follow our current out of hours procedures (which can also be seen on our website) by emailing JMAT on info@jmat.org.uk or school@fep.jmat.org.uk.

If you need to communicate in Czech or Slovakian or do not feel able to email us, please contact Mr Miker directly on 07935005371.

He will pass the information on to Mrs Smith or Mrs Gill.

Please inform us of:

 • Your name and the name of your child

• The name of your child’s class teacher

• The date of symptoms

• The date of the Covid-19 test

• The date of the positive result

Contacting JMAT/Mr Miker directly in this way will allow us to follow the correct health and safety protocols as well as ensuring a consistent and accurate message is provided to our families.

Please do not share information about positive cases on social media. Despite best intentions, we have found that this causes distress and anxiety for families and is often counterproductive. We have our school community’s best interests at the heart of all of our decisions and your continued cooperation, understanding and support is helpful in maintaining a calm and productive experience for your child.

Thankyou for your continued support so far this year.

Have a safe Christmas holiday and we will see you all back in school on Tuesday 5th January.

With best wishes,

The Ferham Leadership Team