



Dear Parents/ Carers,

As the term draws to a close, I would like to wish you and your family on behalf of everyone at Whiston Willis Primary Academy, a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

2020 has been a very challenging year for so many. I have seen so much togetherness by our school community to get us through the term and I want to thank you all for your support through the challenges and disappointments that have been faced.

Before we finish for our Christmas break, I need to share some key information regarding arrangements that are in place moving forward.

As I am sure you are aware, schools have played an active part in 'Track and Trace' procedures since reopening fully in September. This has involved monitoring contacts within classrooms and following up required isolation periods for both households and school bubbles.

Public Health England has agreed a 6-day window after the final day of teaching in which schools are asked to remain contactable to assist with contact tracing. This means that parents/carers of children who have tested positive for Covid-19 after the last day of school on 18th December should inform their child's school so that other children can be informed where necessary.

With this in mind, we will ensure a communication channel is available for the period suggested.

The 48-hour period since the last contact with anyone displaying symptoms and subsequently receiving a positive COVID 19 test result is the key time to identify close contacts.

### Communication of a positive case.

School will only need to know of a **positive test result** for your child in the following two situations only:

- a) Your child was in school for any period within the two school days (48 hours) before the school broke up and they developed symptoms (a new persistent cough; a high temperature or a loss of smell and taste) **OR**
- b) Your child was in school for any period within the two school days (48 hours) before the school broke up and they returned a positive COVID-19 test from one of the Liverpool City Regions mass asymptomatic testing sites and has received a confirmatory PCR test

To inform school in the cases above only, follow the school's procedures for reporting cases below:

EITHER

- Text **07599068574** and state your name, child's name and the best contact telephone number and you will be contacted by a member of school staff for further details.
- Email [admin@whistonwillis.co.uk](mailto:admin@whistonwillis.co.uk) stating your name, child's name and the best contact telephone number and you will be contacted by a member of school staff for further details.

We as a school will then have a duty to follow DFE guidance and seek advice from the DFE regarding actions to be taken. We will be required to inform close contacts of any individual who has tested positive and they will be required to follow the rules of isolation.

In cases of emergency, when you are unable to follow the school's procedures, and strictly only to report possible school contact in the 48 hour window mentioned above you can contact 0151 443 4712 or email [COVID19.SPOC@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:COVID19.SPOC@knowsley.gov.uk)

This number is not a helpline and cannot be used for any other reason or for advice.



## JANUARY ARRANGEMENTS

I look forward to seeing all our children return on MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY following the start times that are currently in place. Please note as per the 'December Update' letter (see email/website) our finish times have changed slightly for some year groups to ensure all our children receive the maximum teaching and learning time possible. **Also, due to space issues, we have decided to swap Jaguar and Panda Classrooms. This will mean slightly different exit and entrance points for these classes from January.**

Class	TIME	Exit point
Owl/Hedgehog	2.55pm	Main door (no change)
Jaguar	3.00pm	Main office door (use gate A)
Pangolin	3.00pm	Main playground gate (no change)
Panda	3.00pm	Classroom door (use gate C)
Zebra	3.10pm	Main playground gate (no change)
Lion	3.10pm	Main playground gate (no change)
Shark	3.05pm	Main playground gate (no change)
Penguin	3.05pm	UKS2 gate (no change)
Wolf	3.10pm	UKS2 gate (no change)
Cheetah	3.10pm	UKS2 gate (no change)

## FOODBANK DONATIONS

I was overwhelmed by your support for the foodbank donations and I would like to offer a massive thank you from all the staff for your support with this. We dropped off over 150kg to the foodbank and your donations were very welcomed.

## SAVE THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Thank you for your support with this event we had in school that also coincided with a 'Santa Dash'! We managed to raise £212 which will help equip 200 children in Indonesia with everything they need for school or antibiotics or over 100 children to beat malnutrition. It is a great charity to support-thank you!

## TERMLY STARS

The staff have identified a 'STAR OF THE TERM' from each class who we want to recognise as being an excellent example for their attitude to school life. This is not an academic award; it is a recognition of children who have been a great role model, classmate and friend to other class members this term. A huge well done to the children listed below:

**Ellie (Nursery), Lottie (Owl Class), Zach (Hedgehog Class), Brooklyn (Jaguar Class), Mila (Pangolin Class), Amber (Panda Class), Sonny (Zebra Class), Evie (Lion Class), Alastair (Shark Class), Gerard (Penguin Class), Poppy (Wolf Class) and Maggie (Cheetah Class).**

Christmas will be very different for all of us this year but I do hope that you manage to spend some time with loved ones and enjoy the festive period ready for 2021 that will I am sure continue to pose challenges but hopefully will see life return closer to the previous normality for us all.

Merry Christmas

Ian Cooper