

#### Class/Pathway information

**Virtual Carol Concert-** On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 10am we will be hosting a virtual carol concert. It will involve the whole school. Please click here and [complete this form](#) if you would like an invite.

**Christmas Jumper day-** On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December it will be Christmas Jumper Day. We will be raising money for Wish Upon A Star and our school. If you wish to make a donation (suggested amount £1), please send in with your child. We will release a total in the new year.

#### Whole school information

As you will be aware, we have had a confirmed case of COVID 19. I am sure you join me in wishing the pupil and their family well. The Department for Education (DfE) has written to all schools and further education providers asking them to remain contactable for a six-day window after the end of term so that we can assist with contact tracing where necessary.

As the last day of term is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December the school will need to be available for Test and Trace calls up to and including Christmas Eve, and we could then have to communicate this to you if your child is affected.

As the school office is closed from Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, we ask parent/carers to communicate any positive test results for their child/ren between the dates of Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> — Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December (by 3pm). Any cases after this date will not require the school to track and trace any potential contacts. We ask parents to do this via the school phone number. We will give you information about how to contact school next week.

**Self-isolation guidance:** It's a legal requirement to self-isolate if you test positive or are told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace. You could be fined if you do not self-isolate.

#### **When does your child need to stay home from school?**

If **anyone** in your **household** or your child has any of these symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Everyone should stay at home, unless they need to get a test or need medical attention.

#### **How long does your child need to stay at home?**

If someone in the household **has symptoms** or **tested positive**, your child will need to stay at home for 14 days.

If they do not develop symptoms in this time, they can return to school on day 15.

If they develop symptoms, they must isolate for 10 days from the first day they had symptoms.

#### **Can I get my child tested and come back to school sooner?**

Unfortunately not, if someone in the household has symptoms it can take 14 days for them to show in another person, so they may test negative on the first of the 14 days but be positive if tested on day 13 for instance.

Please use the following link for more information, if you are not sure please ask us for guidance.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

**Christmas cards:** As a precautionary measure, we will quarantine any Christmas cards which come into school for at least 48 hours. There will be a post box in reception where all cards must go. Next week the last day for Christmas cards to be posted will be **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**, these will then be emptied on Friday morning before pupils arrive and then delivered to the relevant classes.

**Parent/Carers support group-** The next virtual parent/carer support group will be Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January from 7:30pm – 9pm. We will be talking about supporting your child's mental wellbeing. If you would like to attend, please email [earlyhelp@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:earlyhelp@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk) for us to send you a link.

**Early Help Support** – The children's services team provide a variety of early help support please see the link [Early Help Support at Brackenfield](#). Part of this support is to provide food parcels for families that might be struggling a little bit. If you feel a food parcel weekly would help your family, please email [earlyhelp@brackenfield.debyshire.sch.uk](mailto:earlyhelp@brackenfield.debyshire.sch.uk), and we will send one home with your child. This information is stored confidentially.

**Lea Green Residential Trip** - Thank you for the 18 positive replies that we received in support of this residential trip. It is now looking very positive that the trip will go ahead successfully. We will send out full information about the trip as soon as we return in January.

**Winter Grant Scheme-** Families who receive free school meals will be receiving some vouchers from Derbyshire Local Authority as part of the Government Winter Grant Scheme. Additional information can be found here: [New winter package to provide further support for children and families - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

#### Attachments

#### Upcoming dates from the school calendar

**Christmas Dinner** all be served on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020, this will also be our Christmas jumper day. There will be Christmas events in school throughout the day further information is available in [the newsletter](#).

**Last of term** is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December with a **half day closure at 12pm**, school reopens to all students and staff on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.