



## **Milborne Message 11.12.20**

### **Message from Sharon Hunt!**

Dear Parents,

You may have heard on the news that schools could take **Friday 18th December as an INSET day**. This was announced on Tuesday. This time would have needed to be made up, thus affecting the term dates already set. Therefore, as a trust we believe that this is too short notice to give to you, so we have decided **not** to take it. Children will therefore be in school on Friday as planned.

#### **Contact tracing:**

#### **Coronavirus contact tracing during the Christmas break**

As the Christmas break approaches, I would like to extend my thanks to all of our parents and carers for their positive support of our schools during this autumn term. It really has been a difficult term and I am enormously grateful to each of my colleagues for their positive outlook and commitment during this time.

The Department for Education has had to place some requirements on schools to continue with 'contract tracing' if it becomes necessary during the Christmas break. It is therefore important that all parents are aware of the following:

- If a child tests positive for coronavirus having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school (that's from 21st December onwards), it is not necessary to contact the school. Instead, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
- For the first 6 days after school ends (that's up until 24<sup>th</sup> December), if a child tests positive for coronavirus, having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (during 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> of December), parents and carers should contact the school. The school will then assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation as the child may have been infectious whilst in school.
- From 25th December onwards, schools have no role to play in contact tracing for the remainder of the holiday and therefore should not be contacted.

**If you do need to contact the school between 19th and 24th December to notify them of a positive test case, or if they need to contact you to advise self-isolation, then this is how that will happen:**

- **Parents should tell us about a child's positive test by emailing the school at [s.hunt@milborne.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:s.hunt@milborne.dorset.sch.uk)**
- **This email address will be checked once a day at 11am**
- **We will advise any families of the need to self-isolate via a text message which will read: 'We have heard that your child is a close contact of a positive test case. Your child is therefore required to self-isolate until [date]'.**

**This is not a message anyone wants to send or receive and I am sorry that you will receive it by text but I also need to minimise staff working during their holiday periods.**

Where children are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first six days of the Christmas break (ie after the 24th December), you do not need to let school know until the first day back at school in January.

### **Food over Christmas:**

Arrangements have now been put into place for food vouchers over the Christmas period. If you are eligible you will receive an email informing you of the details. These are being sent on the 16th December, therefore please also double check your 'junk mail', 'spam email' inboxes.

If your circumstances have recently changed or you think you need this support then please contact the school office to discuss as soon as possible. Your circumstances will be kept strictly confidential.

### **Trauma Informed Schools:**

This is the second one which shows how the brain's development is affected by positive relationships and the links between parent and child and by key adults.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTsPdMqVwBg> (TED talk)

[Behaviour session 2.mp4](#) (My talk)

### **School Council:**

The next School Council event is 'Christmas Jumper Day' in aid of 'Save the Children'. We will be wearing our jumpers on **Wednesday the 16th December**. The link to our fundraising page is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cjd200002022>

A Big Thank you to those that have already donated, please keep donating, you are able to donate up to and including the 16th December to this worthy cause.

### **Christmas Presents:**

Many of you have been asking about what Christmas Gifts you could get for the classroom as we did last year. As a staff we thought about what we would like to do and came up with two options. We are aware that Christmas can be a very difficult time for many, and especially so this year. We are not expecting any gifts at all, but if you did one to do something then we have a couple of ideas below:

- We would like to suggest a reverse advent calendar, whereby children bring in items (decorations, treats, Christmas cake, puddings, mince pies etc ) and staff will make these up into a Christmas hamper or hampers for local people bringing an extra smile to families. Items can be brought in from Monday and left in the reception area in the box.

Thank you for all of the donations that we have already received. If you are intending on contributing and haven't yet done so, please could all donations be brought in by the **end of Monday 14th December** to allow sufficient time for the items to be 'left' for the required time limit under the Covid regulations, before being given out to the families.

- The other option is a book for the classroom as Reading is such a priority for us this year and books are so expensive but so very important.

**Christmas Safety:**

A message from Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Safety Team:-

Christmas is a really fun time of the year, but it is also a time when we need to remember to take care to be fire safe.

We are delighted to have our Christmas Safety Story "It Was The Lights Before Christmas" read by Firefighter Paul (with a very special guest making an appearance at the beginning and end) for younger children to listen to. Please also see the attached

<https://www.dwfire.org.uk/education/christmas-safety/>

We would like to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas time from all at Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service

**Meet the teacher:**

**Mrs Bronwyn Croft** will be meeting the children for a short period at the end of the day on **Tuesday 15th December**. She will also be outside at the end of the day so that you can put a face to the name. Mrs Croft will be Mrs Pratt's maternity cover on a Monday and Tuesday from 4th January. Please make sure to say hello as you pick up!

Hope you have a lovely weekend. Stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Hunt".

Sharon Hunt