



Positive coronavirus cases from the start of the Christmas holidays until 24th December

For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a child (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.

In this case, should you receive confirmation of a positive coronavirus case, please email snash@mowbrayeducation.org.

Where a child (or staff member) tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours after being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by [NHS Test and Trace](#).

Where children are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, schools do not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term (Monday 4th January 2021).

As a reminder, the most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Dear parents and carers,

Well, first of all, congratulations to all of you for helping get us to the end of term! And what a term! My daughter started school this year (my first child to do so) and it's given me a real appreciation of the hard work that goes into being a parent and carer of a school child. I truly understand how tired children (and parents!) can get after a 16 week term, so to see you all being so supportive of your children and of the school is amazing – it really shows the great community we have here.

I often hear it said that children are very resilient, and these past 8 months have shown that in bucket loads. Every time I walk through school and visit the classes, I am amazed by the learning going on, and amazed by the concentration the children show. They have just accepted the enforced changes to 'normal' school life we have had to make, coming to school with a smile on their face and a great attitude to their learning. They really are superstars.

I'd also like to thank the staff for their tireless work and positivity through some challenging times. There have been lots of changes made, and lots of challenged to overcome that are above and beyond those normally found in school, but they too have (as always) put the children first, making sure they are happy, settled and learning well. The staff team at Ab Kettleby are brilliant and I am proud to be part of it.

I really hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, however you are planning on spending it. Although this year has been at times unbearably tough and heart-breaking, it has hopefully encouraged a lot of people to reflect on what is important to them. This Christmas is one of those times where with any luck you get to enjoy some happy times with those you love.

See you all bright eyed and bushy tailed in 2021!
Steve



Sport

You will not be surprised to know that sport has still been a huge part of school life.

The children have recently been taking part in a 'Boostmas' sports challenge, and have loved getting exercise, having some competition and having fun all at the same time!



Oak class enjoying rugby.



Ash class doing some of their 'Boostmas' (Christmas sports) activities.

Charity money raised

There have been a few charity events recently, including **Children in Need** (where we raised **£xxx**) and the Christmas Jumper Day last week where we raised **£xxx** for **Save the Children**. Thanks so much for supporting these charities, and for showing our children the importance of helping others.



Parental appointments

Please make an appointment in the office if you would like to speak to a member of staff about your child. I know this is a change, but we need to do this to follow government guidance. This is really appreciated, especially as some staff are in the clinically vulnerable or extremely clinically vulnerable group. Staff will usually get back to you with a phone call.

Nativity and carol concert

The children and staff have been busy working on a nativity performance (in Willow class) and a carol concert (in all three classes).

Clearly no-one was allowed to visit school to watch, but we have organised a way for you to watch your child(ren) perform in these wonderful events, so a message will be coming to you soon about how you can see them. Thanks to all at Somerby church for letting us use their lovely church too!



Attendance

These are obviously still very strange times with the coronavirus pandemic affecting us all so much still. Please be vigilant to your child being ill, and do not bring them to school if they are showing signs of having coronavirus. Please also continue to remember the staggered drop off and pick up times.



Friends Of Somerby School (FOSS)

If you'd like to join FOSS and help raise money for the children in school please see the office, who can give you all the details. It really won't take up too much of your time if you join!

Panto

The children had a great time recently (oh yes they did!) when a travelling panto troupe visited school and performed to each class. It was great to have an event like this!

Dates for your diary

End of autumn term 2:

Friday 18th December 2020

Start of spring term 1:

Tuesday 5th January 2021

End of spring term 1:

Friday 12th February 2021

February half term holiday:

Monday 15th – Friday 19th February 2021

