



Elm Tree Community Primary School  
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Skelmersdale  
WN8 6SA  
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Email: [admin@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Mr D Lamb

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you for all your support over the course of this challenging year. As I reflect on the journey we have been on, I can confidently say that it would have been near impossible without the support of our amazing families. I appreciate many of you have experienced disruptions to work schedules and family life given the closure of bubbles over the previous months and for your cooperation and understanding during these times, I am sincerely grateful.

Moving forward, myself and senior management have been considering ways to limit further disruption as we enter the new school year. For many of our children, the structure and routine that school brings plays a vital part in ensuring that their social, emotional and mental wellbeing is supported. **Therefore, we have made the decision that from the week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021, on a Wednesday school will finish at 1:30PM rather than the usual 3:00PM finish.** School will continue to close at 3:00PM on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

I understand many of you will have questions as to why this change has been decided. By closing earlier on a Wednesday, we will be able to conduct a thorough clean of school using our new Ozone cleaning system. This is a highly effective method of sanitization which should prevent the potential spreading of covid-19 around school, resulting in class bubbles being more likely to remain open and help avoid further disruption to your child's education. It is also worth noting that the Ozone kills many other forms of bacteria and diseases such as Norovirus, H1n1, Influenza, Hepatitis C, HIV, Clostridium difficile spore, MRSA, and common food poisoning including Salmonella.

As your child will arrive home slightly earlier on a Wednesday, I appreciate that this may mean you will have to adjust your schedule to ensure that someone is at home to receive them. I apologise in advance for any inconvenience that this may cause but feel as though the benefits of a robust and comprehensive cleaning system will result in much less disruption than that of what we have seen this year. In addition, if this presents an issue for you at work, please feel free to share this letter with your employer or provide them with school contact details. We are happy to discuss this change with your work and provide support wherever we can.

As we approach the end of term, I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the events that we have upcoming.

- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day (£1 donation would be appreciated to go towards Save The Children)
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch (FREE for all children!)
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Class Christmas Productions

We are doing things a little differently this year due to social distancing guidelines. Therefore, all class Christmas productions will be held over Zoom! Links to access these will be sent out in due course. Please can you ensure that you have an up to date email address on file at school. You can contact the school office on 01695 50924 or email [admin@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@elmtree.lancs.sch.uk) to confirm this.



Lastly, I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. As always, if you have any questions or concerns with anything detailed in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours sincerely,

*D. Lamb*

David Lamb (Headteacher)

