



09 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your family are healthy and well. We are coming to the end of a busy term and I wanted to share some key information with you.

End of term arrangements

School will be finishing for the Christmas holiday on Friday 18 December. Year groups will be dismissed at the following times:

- 12.15 Year 8 and Year 9
- 12.25 Year 7 and Year 10
- 12.35 Year 11 and Post 16

Thursday 17 December will be a non-uniform day for students from the House with the most points this term. Students and Parents/Carers will be notified of the winning House on Tuesday 15 December through a WEDUC message.

Friday 18 December will be a Christmas Jumper/non-uniform day for all students. This is to raise money for Arc Light, part of Changing Lives. Please send a £1 donation with your child on Friday 18 December, if they wish to wear a Christmas Jumper or non-uniform on this day.

Christmas Dinner

We have traditionally served a Christmas Dinner to students in the penultimate week of term. This is normally a significant logistical challenge and even more so at the moment. We will therefore be serving Christmas themed food, including turkey and stuffing baguettes, pigs in blankets in Yorkshire puddings and mince pies, at lunchtime on Friday 11 December.

Free School Meals

Please contact your child's pastoral team by the end of school on Wednesday 16 December, if your child is entitled to a Free School Meal, and wishes to have food provided for them on Friday 18 December. These students will be given a packed lunch to bring home when they depart from school.

Vouchers for Free School Meal children for the Christmas holiday period will be issued on Friday 18 December, using the same system as the school used over October half term.

Notification of Positive COVID19 cases during the Christmas Holiday

The Department for Education has given us further information about our responsibilities to support track and trace in the Christmas holiday period. They have asked us to identify and inform any students who have been contacts of positive cases during the last few days of term. If we do have confirmation of a student, or

HEADTEACHER: Mr David Hewitt, BA (Hons), NPQH

DEPUTY HEAD: Mr A Haigh, BSc (Hons)

DEPUTY HEAD: Ms C Mann, BA (Hons)

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member of staff, testing positive we will inform parents/carers if their child is identified as a contact through a text and WEDUC message.

If your child does have a positive test result for COVID19 please inform school by emailing contact@josephrowntree.york.sch.uk

Over the Christmas holiday period you only need to do this if your child was in school within 48 hours of them developing symptoms of COVID19.

If your child will still be self-isolating at the start of term, please contact school to inform us of this from Monday 04 January.

Picking up students at the end of the school day

As the weather has become colder an increasing number of parents/carers are picking up students from school. This has led to a large number of cars coming into the school grounds. This makes it very difficult for buses to come into school safely and creates a health and safety risk for students who are leaving school. Please do not come into the school grounds to pick up students, between 3.00pm and 3.30pm, to help us keep students safe and allow buses to come into the school site easily.

Online events

You will be aware that we have run a number of school events online this term to reduce the need for parents/carers to come into school. At this stage we are intending to continue with this approach, but will send out further details about individual events next term.

Start of Term

We have a training day on Monday 04 January. School will reopen to all students on Tuesday 05 January. Students should arrive at their normal staggered arrival times.

Best wishes for the festive period

Yours sincerely



Dave Hewitt
Headteacher