



Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

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Inspiring Excellence Together

14th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am going to keep this short as I wrote quite a lot for the Christmas newsletter. As communicated last week, following the government decision regarding this Friday being an INSET day, school closes for Christmas on Thursday at the normal times. Years 7 & 11 finish at 2:45pm, Year 9 finish at 3:00pm and Years 8 & 10 at 3:15pm.

Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 17th December

We usually have our Christmas Jumper day on the last half-day of term. The cancellation of the last day has scuppered our usual plans. As there are Year 11 mock exams on Thursday, we did consider cancelling this all together but have decided to compromise. Some students see this as a non-uniform day and this sometimes can lead to a little over-excitement, but on a half day this is normally taken in good spirit. Thursday will be a Christmas Jumper or Hat day, **but this will be worn with their usual uniform**. So, students should be in their normal trousers, skirts, shirts and ties, though can wear a Christmas jumper or Hat as an accompaniment if they pay £1. All money raised will go to the House Charities. Year 11 students will need to remove these during any exams on Thursday. Any students who decide to arrive in non-uniform, despite the clear instructions, will be isolated for the day.

Contract Tracing over the Christmas holiday

To assist with contact tracing over Christmas, we are setting up an e-mail address, which is:-

covidtracing@fcat.org.uk

If your child tests positive for Covid-19 on or before 22nd December, then you should e-mail this address and tell us the name of the student, their school (as this e-mail address is for all FCAT schools), their year group and contact details for yourselves. We will then complete the process of tracing any close contacts they may have had at school.

Given the impact that contact tracing could have on families over the Christmas period and also the potential for asymptomatic students to mix with wider family members over the 5 days of relaxed rules, it is even more crucial that all of our school community follow our 'Covid-Safe' procedures meticulously in the last week of term.

This e-mail address will only be accessed by our staff between 10am and midday up to Tuesday 22nd December.

Outside of that time normal national procedures will need to be used. These of course should be used for adults at any time. This service is for information about students only.

Christmas five day period

I would regret it, if I did not take the opportunity to implore you to take extreme care of yourselves and your loved ones over the Christmas period by adhering to the government advice as a minimum. There have been many similar requests over the weekend from senior Health professionals for the government to change their minds on the guidance and make it stricter. The guidance centres around you forming a Christmas Bubble to limit social contact over the 5-day period from 23rd to 27th December.

There are three main rules:

- you can only be in one Christmas bubble
- you cannot change your Christmas bubble
- your Christmas bubble should not include people from more than three households

It is important that you keep your Christmas bubble as small as possible.

The full guidance is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family#households-where-everybody-is-not-in-the-same-christmas-bubble>

On behalf of all among the Montgomery Family, I do wish you a very Merry Christmas and I am sure we are all hoping for a return to some kind of normality at some point soon in 2021.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. P. M.' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr. Careless