

Thursday 31st December

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your family had an enjoyable Christmas, notwithstanding the Covid-19 restrictions that we are all living with.

As you know, we have worked incredibly hard since the start of the pandemic in March to keep our school as safe as possible, and that work has continued over the Christmas holiday period. I would like to thank our incredible staff for their commitment and professionalism, which has seen many working over the holidays.

My letter today includes important information relating to when your child will return to school at the start of this coming term.

The Government has announced that, apart from in a small number of areas, **primary schools will re-open, as planned, on Monday 4th January 2021**. That means that Outwood Primary Academy Bell Lane will open on that date and we look forward to seeing your child then.

As before, a great deal of planning and risk assessment has gone into ensuring that our school continues to be as safe as possible for pupils and staff, in line with latest Government and Public Health England guidance. We will continue to take decisions in the best interests of our pupils, working with you and keeping you informed every step of the way.

Please note that the staggered start and finish times and entrances used prior to the break are still in place and must be used to support our children's safety. We also continue to strongly advise adults to wear a face covering when in the proximity of the school.

You may also have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms will be conducted in some schools this term. However, this relates only to secondary schools and therefore we are unaffected.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very happy New Year. Please do continue to take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Hewitt

Principal