



# Cringleford CE VA Primary School

*Autumn Term 2020-2021*

## **Newsletter 13**

Dear Parents / Carers,

### **The last day of term will now be Thursday 17th December**

You may be aware that school leaders received a communication from the Department of Education on Tuesday evening suggesting that all schools use Friday 18th December as a remote learning INSET day for staff, meaning that the school will be shut to all pupils.

This is to support the government's efforts to continue with Test and Trace after term ends so that should there be any positive cases from our community we will still be able to contact families.

I can confirm that we will be following the Department of Education's expectation and **therefore the last day of term will be Thursday 17th December** when pupils will attend for a normal day. The school will be closed on Friday 18th December to all pupils as the start of the Christmas break.

The Department of Education recognises that this communication has arrived with schools late in the term and have therefore asked schools to be as helpful to parents as they can by sharing any changes to the end of term arrangements as soon as possible.

### **Monitoring reports of positive COVID-19 cases over the Christmas break**

The DfE has written to all schools to ensure staff, parents and carers are aware of the following information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases in the holidays:

- For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (up to the evening of Saturday 19th December), the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.
- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

We have created a new email address for the holiday period for contacting the school about any positive case results.

We will be monitoring our COVID e-mail address from Friday 18th December through to Wednesday 23rd December. The e-mail account will be checked at 11:00 and 17:00 each day.

The e-mail address is: [covidpositive@cringleford.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:covidpositive@cringleford.norfolk.sch.uk)

If a positive case is notified to us through the e-mail address, we will inform parents / carers as appropriate, following guidance by Public Health England. You will only receive notification of a positive case if your child has been in close contact with the positive case. We will not be sending out any e-mails to the whole school.

**Please ensure that this is the only email address used for reporting positive cases.**

The Local Authority has asked us to relay to parents / carers the importance of letting the school know of any positive cases as soon as possible and that those needing a test should make use of drive through testing to avoid delays through mail delivery of home testing kits.

School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. Where a school's last teaching day is on Thursday 17 December, there should be no pupil contact tracing requests beyond Wednesday 23 December.

Where pupils 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.

Apologies for the late notification of the change to term dates, but the DfE only contacted schools on Tuesday. The school continues to try to make the best possible decisions in challenging circumstances.

Thank you for your support in advance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office ([office@cringleford.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@cringleford.norfolk.sch.uk)).

Yours faithfully

*N. Henery*

Mr N. Henery  
Headteacher

