

Water Primary School

Happiness, Health & Opportunity

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Dear Parents/guardians

I am aware of discussions amongst parents regarding the last week of term and whether or not school will be closing a week early. The simple answer is no. Christmas and spending time with loved ones and family members is extremely important and I understand this, I also understand the need to isolate before the 25th December.

I feel the safest place for our children to be, is in school. The number of infections in school compared to other schools or settings is low. We have all worked tirelessly to ensure bubbles and class groups have been kept apart.

Furthermore, if I gave or requested permission from the Governors and Lancashire Authority to allow remote learning to take place that week, we would have children in school, learning and children out of school, learning remotely but in the same class and year group. This would make things incredibly hard for our class teachers and would also reduce the quality of teaching and learning to both groups.

What we will do in the final week is ensure our safety systems are as robust as possible, no guests or visitors will be invited in and there will be no mixing of class bubbles. Staff will wear masks in corridors or shared spaces and social distancing will be evident in most classrooms. The reason why we have brought Christmas activities forward week, is for the above reason. I do feel that this is the most sensible solution to a very difficult decision and time.

If you are intending to keep your children away from school in the final week of term then unfortunately this will be classed as an unauthorised absence. Again this out of my hands but I am, as always, extremely sympathetic to everyone's unique situation.

Yours sincerely

Mr Willan

Headteacher