
SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL

Part of the Bourne Partnership



Mrs T Daters
Head of School

STUMBLE HILL
SHIPBOURNE
KENT
TN11 9PB

Tel: 01732 810344
Fax: 01732 811355

E-mail: office@shipbourne.kent.sch.uk

Website: www.shipbourne.kent.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

This will be the final Shipbourne newsletter of the term, with one final Bourne Partnership newsletter being sent on Monday.

We all feel incredibly fortunate to have made it (almost) to the end of the term without any positive cases of Covid-19 in our school and very limited self-isolation. Thanks must go to everyone for following the rules and guidelines to ensure that we all stay safe and for working so hard to ensure that all pupils have been able to move forward following an extended period of school closure. It has been an incredibly long journey since February when this all started, and I have no doubt that we have a little way to go before we can relax. The period over Christmas and the return to school in January is predicted to pose the biggest challenge yet, but I know that you will all do as much as you possibly can to ensure that the risk is minimised. Looking back, we have learnt so much over the past months and there are many positives to take with us into 2021, which I hope will be a much better year.

You may have read in the newspaper, or heard on the news, that Nick Gibb (Education Minister) has told schools that they can use one of their development days on Friday 18th December (in effect closing school a day early for pupils). This is very short notice, and we recognise that many working parents would struggle to rearrange their childcare. In addition, we would lose valuable staff development time which has already been allocated for later in the year. We will therefore be sticking to our original plan and will be open to all children on Friday 18th December. The day will end, as previously communicated, with a staggered closure as detailed in Newsletter 3. School meals will be provided as usual.

For the 6 days following the end of term (up to and including Christmas Eve) the Bourne Partnership senior leadership team will be available via emergency@bournepartnership.org should you need to notify us of any positive covid tests. Please read the following carefully so that it is clear whether we need to be contacted.

- 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.
- 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**, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. Please contact us at the above email address only.
- School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. However, should another emergency arise that you feel we need to know about, please use the above address. No other email addresses will be checked over the school break.

Most importantly, may I take this opportunity to wish you all an amazing Christmas. It has been extra special working with you and your children this year, and I hope that you are all able to spend valuable time together as a family. I would also like to thank every member of staff for going even further above and beyond this year. Shipbourne is an incredibly special place to be thanks to all of you!

Yours faithfully,

Mrs T Daters
Head of School

Dates for the Term:

Friday 11 th January	Year 5/6 PGL payment due (if appropriate) Deadline for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes
Wednesday 16 th December	Whole school Forest School afternoon – suitable clothing and footwear, please
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas party, Christmas lunch and film afternoon (see Newsletter 3)
Friday 18 th December	Last Day of Term – Christmas Service on the playground Early pick up from school as detailed in Newsletter 3

Term 3:

NB – swimming will not go ahead until at least Easter due to the rising incidence of Covid-19 in our area

Monday 4 th January	Term 3 begins
Wb. 11 th January	Parent Consultations (Teams invite to follow next week)
Friday 12 th February	End of term 3 Film afternoon in classes unless Valentine's Disco is possible