



Last Day of Term –Friday 18th December

Dear parents and carers,

As many of you may have read in the papers or on social media, the Department for Education informed schools yesterday that they could move one of their INSET days to Friday the 18th December therefore making next Thursday the 17th the last day of the school year. The governors and I have taken the decision NOT to take this option and will remain open on the 18th December. Approximately 75% of South Gloucestershire primary schools are also choosing not to close.

Once again the Department have put schools in a difficult situation, not only did they announce this to the public before schools, they have also given little more than over a week's notice. I fully understand that for some parents this will be welcome news as it will cause issues with work and childcare and for others this decision will be a disappointment as some families wish to isolate as much as possible in the run up to Christmas.

Staple Hill, Kings' Forest and Little Forest will finish for the Christmas break at the end of day on Friday 18th December.

I know some parents have expressed their intention to take unauthorised absence for the 17th and/or 18th December to enable them isolate for a full week before seeing elderly relatives. Whilst we cannot approve or promote this non-attendance we understand the rationale. We simply ask that parents inform us of non-attendance in the normal way to save us chasing you. Home learning for the week is posted on Dojo and Tapestry and those at home should continue to access this.

In the final run up to Christmas I implore every member of our school community to play their part and continue to follow the rules and help keep us all safe. In school we will be tightening our school rules even further to limit contact to its very bare minimum.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

For those of you who celebrate Christmas, I wish you a very Happy Christmas and for those who don't I wish you a peaceful and restful break.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Newman

Executive Headteacher





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