



Ark Dickens Primary Academy

10th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is with a sense of incredulity that we see out 2020 in such a vastly changed landscape to that which we enjoyed last year. However, as we close the doors next week we know that Ark Dickens has remained open throughout the pandemic, providing support and education to all its pupils and that the children themselves have coped remarkably well. They have adapted and flexed to the new arrangements showcasing the very virtues that our school is based on: grit, resilience and determination.

We as adults also enter the end of term knowing that there is a light at the end of our tunnels. With multiple vaccines nearing roll out we should, by summer term next year, be seeing some normality return to our lives. It does though need to be remembered that for now we must continue to do all that we can to stay safe and keep our loved ones protected over Christmas.

As you may be aware that the Department of Education announced that schools could consider some additional measures to protect Christmas for families and staff, including setting an Inset day next Friday 18th December. After careful consideration I have made the decision that the last day of term will be Thursday 17th December. I am aware that this does not give parents much notice but have taken this decision to try to reduce the number of contacts children may have in the run up to Christmas with the aim that you will be able to spend precious time with your families and loved ones.

I wish you all a peaceful and restful holiday period whatever you are doing. Take stock and know that we have travelled through some dark months but coming out the other side we are.

Friday 11th December - Christmas Jumper and Christmas dinner day.

Thursday 17th - School closes at normal time 3.00pm – 3.10pm

Friday 18th – Inset day

Monday 4th January – Inset day

Tuesday 5th January – Start of term

With warmest regards to you all.

Mrs F Chapman
Principal

