



Coaley Church of England Academy

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Dear Parents and Carers

As someone said to me yesterday, only 7-more sleeps until the end of term which doesn't seem very far at all. We're busy being Christmassy in school and I hope the children have enjoyed dressing up in Christmas Jumpers and festive-wear today. It's such a relief to have some of the usual Christmas celebrations this year as so many of the other things have had to be put on hold. We are hoping to get a video of the children performing some Christmas plays and performances but this is proving technically challenging as the files are too big to easily upload. I hope they will be coming out next week as we seek expert advice so keep an eye out on your class Dojos for updates.

This week, I saw on the news the Government's announcement that we can move INSET days around and close next Friday. Given the short notice and the distress I'm sure many of you will feel with having to make changes to child-care, I do not feel we can realistically do this. I believe that this will cause too much disruption to all of you at such short notice and so have decided against this course of action. I have consulted with other Headteachers and have not found one school that has chosen this option.

On a more positive note: Governors have decided to allow children to be collected an hour earlier on the last day of term (18th December) if you wish, so school will effectively 'close' early. If you cannot change your childcare arrangements, do not worry as we will happily keep your child here safe and well until the normal collection times but we wanted to offer an early pick-up as a Christmas treat to you all and to allow the staff time to clear up the Christmas cheer and tinsel, and hopefully get home to their own families at a reasonable time too. It's certainly been a long term for us all! So the pick-up times on the last day (Friday 18th December) will be:

- *Robins: 2.10pm*
- *Starlings: 2.15pm*
- *Owls: 2.20pm*

Also, a huge Christmas congratulation has to go to Clair Oxley who will be partially leaving the school at the end of term. She will be returning to her vocational role in nursing and has secured a fantastic new job which she is really looking forward to. She will be very missed by everyone at school and her work as our Admin person in the Office on a Friday has proved invaluable. Clair has been brilliant, making the role her own, helping us all work smoothly and, in particular, helping me to be organised and know what I'm doing. Luckily for the school, she is staying on as our Clerk to Governors which we are all very happy with. I know that I send her your best wishes in her new post and wish her every success. After Christmas, Jackie Astley will be working on a Friday as well as her other days for the foreseeable future.

Yours

Richard Lucas
Executive Headteacher



Proud Cloud Certificates:

Robins: Cooper, Clementine

Starlings: Poppy

Owls: Harry M, Harry P

Values Certificates:

Robins: Beatrix

Starlings: Andrew

Owls: Ronin

Growth Mindset Certificates:

Robins: Daniel for spotting new diagraphs and tricky words in a sentence

Starlings: Thomas for not giving up on his 'deepen it' and choosing to give up his own time to carry on trying!

Owls: Declan for working hard in maths

WE ARE COALEY ~ We Believe

We Respect

We Belong