



7th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

It is hard to believe that our Autumn Term is coming to an end and Christmas is almost upon us. We break up at the normal time on Thursday 16th December. It certainly has been an eventful term, for me as much as anyone, and it has felt more like a 'normal' term than we have known for a while. Year 5 are now settled in like 'old-timers', clubs and enrichment activities are in full swing and school has a busy, enthusiastic buzz about it, which is excellent to see.

This term we have been thinking about our school values (Considerate, Ambitious and Proud), focussing especially on being considerate members of our community, so it has been wonderful to see our pupils raising money for the library in our Readathon, supporting Children in Need and Fair Trade, becoming Mental Health Buddies, and to see our Ambassadors and Champions working to make the school a better place for all of our community.

Of course, we are not free from the shadow of Covid and we continue to follow the guidance from central government in responding to the ever-changing scene around us. As you may be aware, recently mask-wearing was reintroduced for our KS3 pupils and adults in communal areas. We will also be asking that pupils continue to take lateral flow tests over the holidays. We are very grateful to our parents for supporting these efforts to keep us all safe.

At the end of last week, the government announced that schools would be expected to test pupils from KS3 and above before they return to school in January. To facilitate this, we will be phasing the return of our pupils as we did in September:

- Year 5 and 6 pupils will be returning on **Tuesday 4th January** as normal.
- Year 7 and 8 will be asked to come into school on 4th January for a testing appointment only - their term will start on **Wednesday 5th January**. Further information about testing on Monday 4th January will follow shortly.

As we approach Christmas apace, I also wanted to let you know about some staffing changes that will be happening in school in January.

Codsall Middle School

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You may be aware that Miss Taffs is leaving us at the end of term. We will really miss her contribution to the school – not only in Maths but in the wider school life, including her musical talents in choir and band, running origami club or her enthusiasm other enrichment activities. In addition, Ms Hampton, who has taught at Codsall Middle School for more than thirty years, is retiring. She has been a valued colleague and a fantastic teacher and she will be greatly missed. We wish both colleagues all the very best in the future.

In January, we will be welcoming Miss Gilead back into the Maths department, where she has taught previously. We're also excited to welcome a new science teacher to Codsall Middle. Miss Onions will be joining us in January, as a long term replacement for Mr MacRae, who is enjoying his retirement.

I wish you all the very best for a happy Christmas and look forward to seeing the pupils back at school, rested, healthy and ready to go in January.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "KM Reade". The signature is written in a cursive style with a vertical line to the right of the text.

Mrs K Reade
Head of School