



16<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **End of Term Attendance**

Firstly, let me thank you for all of your support and understanding throughout the past term. The pandemic has created an incredibly challenging set of circumstances, but by working in partnership with you, we have had a successful term and managed to keep our school open for almost all of it!

The past two weeks have provided us with big challenges. As we are working within a strict bubble system, it has meant we have not been able to move staff around to cover for absent colleagues as much as we might normally do. This is why we decided to close on Wednesdays until the end of term, helping us to maintain high standards of cleaning and manage staffing. After making this decision, the government then announced that schools were allowed to finish the term one day early (by moving INSET days around) and this is what the Junior school have decided to do. Then yesterday, we have had confirmation that London will be entering Tier 3 from this Wednesday morning as cases of Covid-19 have risen sharply.

#### **What does this mean for you and your child?**

We remain closed on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December to all children, except those of key workers and vulnerable pupils. Elmwood Infant School **will be open** for any child wishing to attend on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December**.

However, given all of the above and the fact that the Junior school is closed on Friday, you may decide that it is in your family's best interest to keep your child at home for the last two days of term - Thursday and/or Friday. If you decide to do this, your child's attendance will be authorised for exceptional circumstances and you will not be penalised for their non-attendance. For these two days (and the Wednesday) please complete learning from home using SeeSaw, Evidence Me and the year group packs available from the school's website.

We hope that the option above will enable you to make a decision that works best for your child and family. If you do choose to keep your child at home for the last two days of term, please contact the school to confirm this.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday and Friday but if not, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you a safe and healthy Christmas and a new year that will bring prosperity and happiness.

With warm wishes

Zoe Harris

Head Teacher

Sherifa Turawa

Co-Chair of Governors