16th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to share some key information before we break up for the Christmas holidays on Thursday 17th December at 12.00pm.

**Key events for next half term**

We have a number of key events next half term which include:

* Year 7 and 8 Exams – w/c Tuesday 5th – Friday 8th January
* Year 10 Progress Evening (online) - Monday 18th January – 3.00-7.00pm
* Year 9 Options Week – Monday 25th – Friday 29th January
* Year 9 Progress Evening (online) – Monday 1st February – 3.00-7.00pm
* Week commencing Monday 8th February there will be a very small number of Year 11 mock exams for English Language, Maths and possibly Science (to be confirmed).
* Final Year 11 Mock Exams will commence after the February half term holiday on Monday 22nd February.

**Lunchtime Changes - Temporary Measure**

Due to the inclement weather on the horizon and lack of indoor facilities due to the number of different ‘bubbles’ we will be proposing to implement the following temporary change to our lunch timings.

Lunch time will change to the following times from Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Year 7 12.00-12.30pm

Year 8 12.30-1.00pm

Year 9 12.30-1.00pm

Year 10 1.00-1.30pm

Year 11 1.00-1.30pm

The school day will end 10 minutes earlier and staged dismissal will start at 3.15pm instead of 3.25pm.

Staged Dismissal

Year 7 3.15pm Main Drive

Year 8 3.15pm Pupil Path

Year 9 3.25pm Pupil Path

Year 10 3.20pm Pupil Path

Year 11 3.20pm Main Drive

Year 12/13 3.20pm 6th Form Path

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**Reporting a positive Covid result**

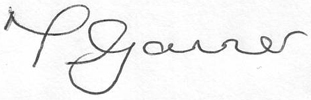
If your child receives a positive result for Covid after Friday 18th December you may need to contact [info@southmoormat.co.uk](mailto:info@southmoormat.co.uk) so we can trace potential contacts who will need to self-isolate. Please note that you only need to contact the Academy, if your child was in school in the 48 hours prior to developing symptoms or receiving a positive test result. Emails will be monitored until Wednesday 23rd December at 3.00pm. If your child is identified as a contact of someone testing positive for Covid, you will receive a text message from the academy informing of the dates your child will need to self-isolate.

**Additional support for families over Christmas**

For those families not in receipt of means tested free school meals, there is a range of other support available in communities over the Christmas period. Information is available on Sunderland City Council’s website – [www.sunderland.gov.uk/communitychristmas](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/communitychristmas) – and includes information about access food vouchers, food parcels and hampers, support with fuel and heating the home, mental health and wellbeing support, and support for carers, as well as festive activities and online events. The information is split by area and covers Sunderland, Coalfields and Washington.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish you a Happy Christmas and a prosperous and peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely



Miss T Garner

Acting Headteacher