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1 March 2021

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2020/2021 - NEWSLETTER NO 23



REMOTE LEARNING

Once again I would like to say a huge thank you and well done to all of the children for their efforts whilst we have been teaching and learning remotely. We think you have done a great job. I would also like to say another huge thank you to the staff for all their efforts in changing the way they have taught over the past 7 weeks. As we have seen most if not all of the work during this time there is no

need to send it into school unless, we haven't seen it. Of course, if there is a need for further remote learning, all the systems are ready to be re-established very quickly.

As a reward for being so great we have decided that we will hold a virtual end of remote learning party for all classes this Friday. The class teachers will be sending out the details to you over this week in readiness for fun and games on Friday.



RETURN TO SCHOOL



Hopefully, you will have all received the letter from last week outlining the return to school for all the children as from next Monday. We are so looking forward to seeing all of the children back in school and in class where they belong. Of course, we still have to remain vigilant and make sure we maintain social distance, have extremely good hand hygiene, stay within our bubbles both in school and at the start and end of the day as well as staying healthy. We will see what the next month brings

before we then have the Easter break. Hopefully, we will not have to close any of the class bubbles but again there is no guarantee. Please do your part as parents and socially distance yourselves when bringing and collecting the children from school at the beginning and end of the day. It is important that we, as adults, set that example. We would ask that only one adult from the family brings or collect the child/ren from school to minimise the number of adults on site at any one time. The case rates within South Gloucestershire still remain above the national average and are higher than when we returned in September. Therefore, we do still need to be vigilant in our interactions with each other. That way we will be able to stay safe.

Our risk assessment has been updated for the children's return to school. This has been sent with the newsletter for your information.

CURRICULUM

Thankfully, due to the very high engagement of the children over the past couple of months of remote learning, we have managed to maintain the vast majority of our curriculum offer. When the children do return next week we will be concentrating on returning them to the routines and expectations of school life and learning. This will also involve ensuring that they secure those social and emotional benefits of being with their friends. Therefore, we will be working on re-establishing those connections through games, social time, speaking and listening activities and collaboration when in class and at playtimes as well. This will be alongside re-assessing where the children are academically.



a major focus for the first week

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We will be using some 'cold task' to check how well the children have retained the knowledge from the Autumn term as well as the learning that has taken place remotely.

This will provide us with a benchmark as to the 'pitch' of the learning during the rest of this term and beyond. The teachers can then plan accurately what the children need. We have been continuing with 'catch up' groups for some of the children remotely. These will continue to the end of the term in school and then re-assessed. If we feel your child requires additional 'catch-up' support for any reason we will be contacting you directly by the end of March.

SURGE TESTING

We are aware that there has been a plea from PHE for the residents in the following postcodes to undertake testing due to the recent discovery of the new Brazilian variant of Covid. If you are living in these postcodes BS32 0, BS32 8, BS32 9, BS34 5, BS34 6. Drive-in surge testing sites will be open at Stoke Gifford Parkway Park & Ride, as well as The Mall Coach Park at The Mall Cribbs Causeway from 9am today until next Monday. These are PCR tests so more accurate than lateral flow tests. For piece of mind please do seek a test.

VACANCY FOR ROAD CROSSING PATROL HERO

We are still looking for our very own School Road Crossing Patrol Hero, actually this has now been for several years. We are very keen for someone to join the Road Safety team to ensure that the children (and parents) remain safe on their way to and from school. If you are interested in helping out and doing your bit for our local community please see the details below.

Post Details:

Role: School Crossing Patrol - Almondsbury

Site Location: Sunday's Hill, Opposite Church

Times: 8.30am – 9.05am

3.20pm – 3.55pm

Hourly rate: £9ph

Full training and uniform is provided, we are happy to consider part time and/or job share for further details please contact myself, Martina Byrne-Obee 01454 863611.



PA NEWS

LOTTERY NEWS

You can still sign up to the lottery by going to www.onelottery.co.uk and searching for Almondsbury School.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

There are a number of websites that will be helpful for each child to investigate to help them with their home learning. This week's website is: <http://primarygamesarena.com/Key-Stage-1>

Best wishes

Mr Paul D Smith

Head Teacher

LETTERS SENT OUT LAST WEEK AND POSTED ON WEBSITE

CONTENT	YEAR GROUP	INFORMATION OR ACTION
Letter re full re-opening of school	All	Information

DATES 2020/21

TERM 4

Monday 8 March

Wednesday 10 March

Friday 19 March

Thursday 25 March

Monday 29 March

Tuesday 30 March

Wednesday 31 March

Thursday 1 April

All children back in school – staggered entry and exits

Year 1 and 2 WOW day

Comic Relief Day

Parents Evenings 4-7pm via Zoom (note date change)

Arts themed week in school

Parents Evenings 4-7pm via Zoom (note date change)

End of Term 4

INSET DAY – School closed to children

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TERM 5**Monday 19 April****Thursday 22 April****Friday 28 May****Start of Term 5****PA meeting – held via Zoom 7.30pm****INSET day – school closed****Term dates for 2020/21**

Term	Starts	Ends
Term1	Tuesday 1 September 2020	Friday 23 October 2020
Term 2	Monday 2 November 2020	Friday 18 December 2020
Term 3	Monday 4 January 2021	Friday 12 February 2021
Term 4	Monday 22 February 2021	Thursday 1 April 2021
Term 5	Monday 19 April 2021	Friday 28 May 2021
Term 6	Monday 7 June 2021	Wednesday 21 July 2021
INSET DAYS confirmed	Tuesday 1 September 2020 Monday 2 November 2020 Monday 4 January 2021 Thursday 1 April 2021 Friday 28 May 2021	