Civitas Academy Bulletin

 21/10/20

 

**Update from Mr Wieder**

Following the communication sent out on Monday regarding the partial closure of the Y3 bubble, I am writing to bring greater clarity regarding the events that led to this. The Y3 bubble returned back to school after their isolation period on Monday. As communicated on the bulletin dated 16/10/20, there had been no reports of symptoms, testing or confirmed cases to the school during this period. At Monday lunchtime, the school was informed of a positive test result for COVID-19. This member of the Y3 bubble had been in attendance in school that day despite a test result being in process. This member of the Y3 bubble was then immediately isolated from the rest of the bubble and went home shortly afterwards. The school informed the Department of Education, REAch2 and Reading. The school followed the guidance by the Department of Education and traced anyone who had been in contact with this member of the Y3 bubble and this resulted in 31 children and 3 staff being sent into self-isolation for 14 days.

The next day a Zoom meeting was held to explain the situation to the parents in the bubble. There was a positive dialogue about how we can work as community to support one another during this unique moment in time. Points that we discussed and it was felt that needed to be shared with all parents are:

* The school will continue to innovate and respond to feedback from parents regarding home learning in the event of any partial/full closures in the future.
* We all have a duty to follow rules and guidelines issued by the government. Families should follow school procedures- wear masks properly (unless exempt) and keep to the distance markers identified outside on Hodsoll Road and not to loiter unnecessarily or engage in conversations with staff when they are dismissing children. This will help to maintain the flow of people and keep the distance. Please use the year group email addresses to communicate with staff.
* Engage with the school fully. It is essential that you check emails, provide up to date contact details (if they change) and inform the school of any tests and subsequent results in a timely manner. This will include during holiday periods. A link will be shared in the bulletin on Friday for families to complete if their child develops symptoms or has to self isolate for any reason during the half term break. This will then enable the school to make plans accordingly.
* Keep your child off school and obtain a test if your child develops symptoms. To get a test click on the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

* We can work together to support families that have been affected by the COVID-19. We will look into ways of developing this further over the coming weeks, but today I will be sharing some signposting links for families in immediate need:

To find out what support you can get if you are affected by a coronavirus, then please click on the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/find-coronavirus-support>

**Citizens Advice:**

https://[www.citizensadvice.org.uk/health/coronavirus-what-it-means-for-you/](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/health/coronavirus-what-it-means-for-you/)

**Universal Credit:**

https://[www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/coronavirus/](http://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/coronavirus/)

**ReadiFood is an independent Food Bank providing food parcels to those in severe need:**

https://readifood.org.uk/

**The Faith Organisation can also support with food parcels**:

 Call 01189872672

**You can contact Reading Borough Council for any general enquiries such as housing, benefits or general advice:**

Call 01189373641

**First days charity are offering families in financial difficulty who are experiencing increased pressure due to coronavirus a pack including nappies, wipes and other essential toiletries to help them at this time.**

https://[www.firstdays.net/emergency-toiletries](http://www.firstdays.net/emergency-toiletries)

**Home start Reading offer support to parents who are overwhelmed by their difficulties:**

https://[www.home-start-reading.org.uk/](http://www.home-start-reading.org.uk/)

**Reading Voluntary Action:**

<http://rva.org.uk/coronavirus-community-action/>

**Support for children’s mental health:**

https://www.minded.org.uk/

[**https://youngminds.org.uk/media/3695/how-to-support-your-child\_corona.pdf**](https://youngminds.org.uk/media/3695/how-to-support-your-child_corona.pdf)

**Events Diary**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date (Time)** | **Event** |
| Thursday 22nd October (4pm) | Accelerated Reader Parent Workshop (Zoom) |