Civitas Academy Bulletin

25/09/20



**Update from Mr Wieder**

We launched the first of our online Zoom meetings to support learning yesterday evening with our Tapestry workshop. This will be followed by the Y5 meet the teachers event today at 4pm. There is a different year group planned for each day next week. These will all be held over Zoom with meeting links shared in the email edition of the bulletin.

We will continue to update the class pages on the website on a weekly basis with the work that has been set in English and mathematics. This will serve two purposes- one for children and families who have to self-isolate for any reason and the second to keep families up to date with what their child has been learning at school that week.

I am pleased to announce that we have purchased additional reading books for children in Early Years and KS1 and we will be updating the banding of some our current reading books that we currently have in school. This means that next week, we will be holding onto books brought back into school next week. We will then aim to send books back out again from Monday 5th October. Thank you to Miss Bradburn for organising this. Children who use the Accelerated Reader in KS2 will be unaffected by this and will continue to bring books home.

**Hand in Hand We Learn Together**

Our school motto is ‘Hand in hand we learn together’ and we are committed in working in partnership with families to support the children that attend the school. We accept that we will not get everything right straight away and will act upon feedback to make things better. Obviously at this time, we have had to put additional safety measures in place and I recognise that it is not ideal for families to have different staggered start and finish times. The current system that we have put into place has been refined as much as it can be at this stage and thank you for all of your support with this. However, it has come to my attention that a member of staff has been sworn at and verbally abused this week (and on other occasions) by members of our school community. This is not acceptable. The member of staff had been following safety instructions given by the school and asking families to keep the distance and not wait in a specific area. I will be holding a follow up meeting with any members of the school community that the staff member can identify to me. If necessary, the school has the right to ban members of the school community from the site for a fixed term period.

I would like to personally thank the very large majority of the school community for their patience, courtesy and good manners when dropping off and collecting their children.

**Contact Details**

There have been numerous occasions this week where we have attempted to contact parents and found that the phone numbers are no longer active. If any of your details have changed, please email the office with the updated details. We are looking to launch a specific app for the school in November where you will be able to do this directly.

**Monitoring Use of Devices at Home**

I would like to remind families to regular monitor what their child is doing on their tablet/ laptop at home and ensure that parental controls are in place. Also please ensure that your child is using age appropriate sites/ apps.

**P.E. Kits**

We have now returned all named P.E. kits/clothing from pre-lockdown. There still remains some unnamed clothing left over. Children have been taken down to see if they recognise any of the remaining lost property. However, in light of the current situation, it would be inappropriate to put out on the playground to let parents rummage through as we would have done previously, so we will store the remining property for now.

**House Colours for New Starters**

All children have been now allocated into houses. If you are unaware of your child’s house colour, then please contact the office and they will be able to inform you. A reminder that our P.E. T-shirts can only be ordered via the Brigade website.

**Learning Support Assistant Vacancy**

We are currently advertising for a learning support assistant to work in Early Years. Details can be found on the Eteach website or click on the vacancy link below to be taken directly to the advertisement:

<https://www.eteach.com/job/early-years-learning-support-assistant-1115262>

**Lunches**

Last week, only 50% of families that required school dinners, booked their meal choices using Tucasi. If you did not book via Tucasi and your child required a dinner, you will receive a letter from me via email informing you of this. If you require any support with using Tucasi, please contact the office and we will be able to support you with using this.

For school dinners, please could you ensure that orders for the week beginning 5th October are placed by 12pm on Thursday 1st October

A reminder that from Y3 upwards, you will be required to pay for school meals, unless you are eligible for free school meals.

For children with packed lunch, please ensure that it is nut-free.

**Birthdays**

Your child may wear their non-uniform clothes on their birthday. Unfortunately, due to the current situation, children will be unable to hand out sweets/ cake etc at this time. We will inform you if this situation changes.

**COVID-19 Update**

As of 25th September, there has been no confirmed cases of COVID-19 at the school. In the event of a confirmed case, we would inform all parents.

A reminder that the main symptoms of coronavirus are:

* a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
* a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
* a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms. If you or your child present with these symptoms, you must not attend school and should arrange to get a coronavirus test. You should stay at home and do not have visitors until you get a test result-only leave your home to have a test. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

You can book a coronavirus test on the following website:

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

You must inform the school if you suspect that you or your child requires a coronavirus test and you should inform us immediately if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus.

In the event of a child displaying any symptoms in school, we would move your child to our isolation room and you would be asked to collect, isolate and arrange for a test.

In the event of a confirmed case of coronavirus, parents would be informed and the children in the bubble would be required to isolate. Remote home learning would then be provided during that time.

**Events Diary**

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| **Date (Time)** | **Event** |
| Monday 28th September (4pm) | Y2 Meet the Teachers (Zoom) |
| Tuesday 29th September (4pm) | Y3 Meet the Teachers (Zoom) |
| Wednesday 30th September (4pm) | Y1 Meet the Teachers (Zoom) |
| Thursday 1st October (4pm) | Reception Meet the Teachers (Zoom) |
| Friday 2nd October (4pm) | Y4 Meet the Teachers (Zoom) |
| Monday 5th October (4pm) | Phonics Parent Workshop (Zoom) |
| Thursday 8th October (4pm) | MyMaths Parent Workshop (Zoom) |
| Thursday 22nd October (4pm) | Accelerated Reader Parent Workshop (Zoom) |

Parents evening will take place on the week beginning the 9th November. We will make a further announcement about how this will be operated in due course.