

AVJS Bulletin: 17th September 2020

The children all seem to have settled well into school and the new ways in which we are operating. We are very mindful of the wellbeing of the children and we take care to make sure that they are not feeling anxious - it is so lovely to go around the school and see so many happy and smiling faces!

We are constantly looking at ways to make our premises as safe as we possibly can for everyone. We have therefore decided that from Monday, September 21st, *we are asking all visitors to the site to wear a face mask*. This will mean that when you come into the grounds on Monday evening to collect your child, we would kindly ask you to wear one. We understand that for some with a medical condition it is not possible, but we strongly encourage everyone else to do so.

You will be very aware by now that there are huge problems with the Covid 19 testing system that is in operation at the moment with some people being told to go to a testing centre that is miles away and some not being able to get an appointment at all. If your child does develop any of the symptoms of Covid 19 (high temperature, persistent cough or a lack of taste or smell) we ask that you keep your child at home and try to obtain a test. It is also a requirement that the whole household self isolates pending the result of the test in line with government guidance. If you are unable to get a test, we ask that your child is kept off school for ten days as if they had tested positive. This is far from ideal but until the system is sorted, this is the safest option for all. We do have a very limited (and depleting) number of self-testing kits

in school which can be requested if required but we do urge you to try to get a test at a test centre in the first place.

I would like to remind everyone that we have implemented a one way system in order to make the collection of children a safe activity. I know that for some, this may seem an inconvenience but I ask you all to adhere to the procedure and not exit the site by the Arno Vale Road gate or enter by the Saville Road gate. Along with this, it is still very important that adults maintain a social distance from each other and that children are reminded to distance themselves from adults. This is for everyone's safety. Government guidance also recommends that *'schools advise parents to limit the number of different out of school settings providers they access, as far as possible. Where parents use childcare providers or out of school extra-curricular activities for their children, schools should encourage parents and carers to seek assurance that the providers are carefully considering their own protective measures, and children should only attend settings that can demonstrate this.'*

We have also noticed that some of the younger visitors to the site are amusing themselves on the mound at the rear of the school, along the wall behind the hall and in the trees near the Saville Road exit. Please ensure that your children are with you at all times on the premises and that they adhere to the walkways to ensure that they are kept safe, thank you.

As you will probably know, by the end of September, all schools are expected to



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have in place their plans for remote learning should any part of the school community be required to self-isolate at home. Over the summer, we set up a working party to look at the most effective way in which we could do this. We have decided to use Class Dojo to support us with this. You may have heard from the children that they have been earning Dojo points for their good behaviour. The Class Dojo package allows us to reward the children in a very visual manner and tailor the rewards to our school rules and values. There is also the option for parents to have a Dojo account so that they too can see how many points the children have been earning. Class Dojo also allows documents, videos and messages to be posted and we will be supplying you with more information very soon to enable you to set up your Dojo account. It has been used successfully by many schools and we feel it offers one of the best ways of supporting home learning should the need arise. Best of all, it is free! If you think that you do not have the technology at home to support this way of learning (Wi-Fi, tablet or computer) please contact your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Just a reminder that our photographer is in school on Friday morning to take individual photos. We will also be able to photograph siblings within the school but unfortunately we cannot permit siblings who do not attend Arno Vale to come in.

Mr Ward and Mr Lindley are going to be running their sports camp during the October half term. A flyer has been sent out to you but if you require any further information, they can be contacted as

follows: Mr Lindley 07858744626
or Mr Ward 07901967644
Email: multisportscamp@hotmail.com

We will be holding our parents consultation evenings on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 13th, 14th and 15th October. This year the meetings will be held remotely and we are currently finalising the plans for this. On Thursday, 24th September from 6.00pm, you will receive an email allowing you to book your slot. It is the same system we have used before and that has been used at Woodthorpe Infant School and has worked very effectively before. The email will go to the primary contact that we have on our database so if your contact details have changed, please let the office know.

We are currently seeking someone to join our team of dedicated Midday Supervisors. If you like working with children, have lots of energy, enjoy promoting play and have some time spare in the middle of the day, please email the office for an application form and more information.

