

AVJS Bulletin: 24th September 2020

I would like to say thank you to all of you who are wearing face coverings when coming onto the school premises. I understand that there are mixed feelings about them and for some with medical conditions, they are not able to wear them. However, for the rest, we feel that if we can encourage any measures that could lead to a prevention of infection, then we should do so.

This evening, you will be receiving an email asking you to follow a link to book a slot for your parents consultation appointment in October. We have considered using Microsoft Teams or Zoom to hold the meetings but have decided that a phone call would be the best option. We are aware that connecting to Zoom or Microsoft Teams can be a struggle for some and can also be time consuming setting up the account if you don't already have one, or just trying to connect. We feel that having telephone meetings will be easier, quicker and accessible to all. We do need you to keep to the ten minute limit and if you find that you need more time, your child's class teacher will only be too happy to book an appointment for another time.

Next week, you will be receiving communication from your child's teacher about Class Dojo and how to set up your account. If you have any issues setting up your account, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. In the next two weeks, your child will be coming home with a letter containing log in details for Times Tables Rockstars, an online maths resource that can be accessed

anywhere. Further information about the resource will also be published soon.

Although we hope that it is not going to happen, we have to be ready to support the children if a bubble is closed and the children are sent home to self isolate for two weeks. In this case, much of the learning would be online and this would rely on the children having access to either a computer or a tablet in order to do the work. If you think this would be a problem for you, please contact the school at noreply@arnovale.notts.sch.uk by Friday, 2nd October. All the messages will be treated confidentially.

Homework is always a contentious issue and over the past few years, we have done a lot of work researching the impact of homework and people's attitudes towards it. As you can imagine, it is a very divisive subject with some people thinking there is too much whilst others thinking there is not enough! Within the next two weeks, your child's class teacher will be sending you some information that will include some optional homework. We believe that children should be regularly reading to an adult, practising their times tables and their spellings. Occasionally we will set other homework that may relate to their current work or something they are about to start. This homework is optional, but many children enjoy doing it. At Arno Vale, we firmly believe that children should have time to practise their hobbies, play, learn new skills that organisations like Cubs and Brownies (amongst many others) can offer as well as having some relaxation time. We do not want to overburden children and



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parents / carers with onerous homework tasks and will only set the extra ones if there is a value to them.

Over lockdown, the children will have produced some work in the books we sent home and from Woodthorpe Infants too. We would love to see some of the work they have done. Your child can bring their work in on Friday, October 9th and we will 'quarantine' them over the weekend so that the work can be shared with their class teacher the following week.

I would like to remind everyone that we are a nut free school. Please check any spreads that you may use to make sandwiches as some contain nuts, thank you.

Some of you have been asking about the annual flu jab for the children. This will be taking place on the afternoon of Wednesday, 18th November. We will be sending out more information soon.

