

Civitas Academy Bulletin

13/11/20



Update from Mr Wieder

It has been another busy week at school with parents' evening calls taking place this week. During the calls, your child's attendance would have been mentioned. As you may be aware, increasing attendance, is one of our school improvement priorities and we have a separate action plan for this. To give you all context, the last national average published for attendance was 96% and as a school we have been consistently below this figure since opening in 2015. If the absence drops below 90%, then your child is classified as persistently absent and attendance is monitored for improvement with the Education Welfare Officer (EWO). At this point of the year, each day carries a higher percentage than it would do by the end of the academic year, so this is considered in our meetings as are the reasons for absence provided to the school. For example, the response taken for an unauthorised term time holiday will be very different to genuine illness with evidence submitted.

Despite all of the isolation periods required under the current context, I am pleased to report that school attendance for all pupils in Autumn 1 was up at the equivalent point in previous years. However whole school attendance still remains below our minimum target of 96%. The main reason for this improvement being a significant reduction in the amount of unauthorised term time holidays. For anyone unfamiliar with our policy, all term time holidays are unauthorised and may result in a fine being issued by the local authority (Reading).

I am including a breakdown of school attendance for years 1-5 for Autumn 1 below:

Year Group	Average Attendance for Autumn 1
Whole School-Statutory School Age	94.7%
Y1	95.8%
Y2	92.1%
Y3	93.3%
Y4	96.7%
Y5	96.6%

Well done to children in Y4 and Y5 who are currently exceeding the last published national average (96%). A special mention to children in Y1 who are also very close to 96%

Dropping Off/ Collecting

A reminder that we actively encourage to use park and stride options in nearby streets. Despite the staggered times, it has become noticeably more congested on Great Knollys Street recently with illegal parking being reported again. Traffic Wardens make regular patrols in the area and if you park illegally, you are putting others at risk and placing yourself at risk of a fine.

Some families are dropping off in front of the gates. Please note that it is not permitted to drop your child off in front of the access gate on Hodsoll Road. Please see the picture attached for clarity of where this is not allowed.



Tuesday 24th November - KS2 Rock Star Day

To launch our new Times Table Rock Stars online platform for learning, KS2 will be having a Rock Star day on Tuesday 24th November. Children from Years 3, 4 and 5 are welcome to come into school dressed as a rock star. On this day, they will receive their log ins for the program and complete a range of times table activities to promote learning. Miss Frain will also hold a workshop for parents to introduce this to them- date to be confirmed. Thank you for your support.

COVID 19 Symptoms Procedure

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 any of 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

Date (Time)	Event
Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 24th November	Y3, Y4 and Y5 Dress as a Rock Star Day
Wednesday 16 th December	Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 18 th December	Last Day of Term