Update.....



Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Firstly, I just wanted to express my gratitude and remind you how amazing you all are! Well done[©]. Whatever our situation at home, we have all been finding ways to make the learning offer for our children work to the best of our abilities. Your support in communicating, problem solving, counselling, cajoling and flexibly accommodating new systems and trials is greatly appreciated. It very much feels like we are all on a steep learning curve together but your positive support and encouragement gives us the confidence to keep finding new ways to keep in touch, feedback and celebrate. To help us develop further we are constructing a survey for parents so please look out for that before half term. You will also have heard that the earliest possible date for pupils to return to school is now March 8th, which is still under review and depends upon other targets being reached.

Parent's Evenings

We have now completed six of our eight parent's evenings and while there have been occasional 'hosting' glitches due to the volume of schools having the same evening, in the main; these seem to have gone really well and has been brilliant to have face-to-face contact with you. There has been a higher take up for appointments than we normally receive and so we will look to see if we can improve availability in the future.

Googling

We are monitoring how much engagement we have from pupils. If you want to check in with what work your child has been turning in, log in to Google Classroom and select 'Classwork' and 'view your work'. This brings up their completed tasks and any missing tasks. You can also view any work that has been 'returned' with feedback from staff. Our website has video tutorials and advice if you're still finding challenges, but please do get in touch if there's anything we can do to help - IT Challenges; don't know how to get to google classroom; how do we submit work; how do pupils join the tutor time using Google Meet; how do I find their French class; we've only got 1 working device between 3 children…etc… It normally takes just a few minutes to support and then they're away. Sometimes hours of learning or activity just have a short description, explanation or example delivered via 'screen time' and then they will be encouraged to get away from the screen for tasks where practical/possible.

Monday 1st February

Please continue to keep us posted of any positive cases or isolations you are experiencing whether they are in school or at home. At the time of writing, there have been no further cases reported and so we look forward to the return of all 'in school' learners on Monday morning.

Years 5 and 6 - 8:25am Years 7 and 8 - 8:35am Gates close at 8:45am

Screening

Thank you to the parents of 'in school' learners in Years 7 and 8 who have given consent for their child to be screened twice, a few days apart. This was obviously interrupted this week! We intend to begin this w/b Monday 1st February.

Free School Meals

For half term, families will receive vouchers from ASDA, £15 per pupil. The vouchers will be emailed to you from ASDA – if you do not want us to share your email address, please tell us by Monday 1st February email or telephone to our academy office. This is for week commencing-15th February. Arrangements for after half term will be communicated shortly.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Yours sincerely

Miss Emma Wilkes Head Teacher



