

October 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parents and families

Here we are at the end of the half term, we cannot believe how quickly time has flown! The children have been simply amazing and settled back into the routines so brilliantly. Along with school newsletters we also try and capture what is happening on social media so don't forget to give your child's school a follow on Facebook or Twitter.

We have begun the year revisiting our School Trust vision and values to make sure that it truly reflects our journey as we move forward and out of the pandemic. We are seeking the voice of all stakeholders and the parent voice will be represented through the Local Governance Committees. They will be ready in January, and I will update you on our direction as a family of schools.

We are all now in a situation where we are being asked to learn to live the virus and this has presented us all with many challenges. Whilst we have seen fewer cases in our schools and fewer children have been poorly, we have been quite badly affected by staff absences linked to Covid and the horrendous flu that people are suffering with. Your child's teacher and Headteacher have been doing all that they can to minimise disruption and I would like to thank you for your understanding. We are all still learning what this new normal will look like.



We will continue to issue 'Warn and Inform' letters if there is a case in your child's class or close contact group so that we can all continue to take as many precautions as possible. Thank you for understanding and support because it is helping keep our school communities safe.

As a School Trust have been looking at the impact of the lockdowns on the children. Where we have seen the greatest impact is on our younger children who have been in school the least amount of time due to their age. We will be ensuring that all our younger pupils are successful readers as soon as possible. Why? Because this unlocks the other curriculum areas. We have invested in additional resources to support the teaching of Phonics by working together as a School Trust.

We have invested in additional training for your child's teacher, more books, and resources. It also means if we were ever asked to move to home learning, there are clear and easy to use resources for you to be able to support your child if they are a younger reader.

However, it has been wonderful to see lots of things go back to normal. As a Trust we work with The Spires College, Torquay, who provide us with our sports support. They provide a specialist teacher in your child's school each week and the opportunity to be part of competitions and festivals. It has been so wonderful to provide your child with the full programme of sport activities, including restarting our after-school clubs. We want to inspire our future British Olympians and it is brilliant to see the children enjoying the opportunities that we provide.

We are slowly building up to whole school events, taking local cases into consideration. We really hope to be able to invite you in over this next half term, dependent on cases, so thank you for bearing with us.

I hope that you have a wonderful half term, and a restful break.

