

No 1 Multi Academy Trust for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2019 AND NO 3 IN 2018

Top 10 National Pupil Progress

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2018 AND 2019



25/05/21

Dear Parents

Working in partnership with families

Each week, in this newsletter, I aim to give families a flavour of the learning taking place across the school. This week, as you may have seen from our social media pages, the children have been incredibly creative in their art learning and we support the children to develop their artistic skills which build year upon year. We're delighted that with support from across our Trust, we've been able to develop such a rich and varied art curriculum. Behind the scenes teachers have been busy working virtually with their year group teachers across our Trust. This has really helped them to share the progress the children in their class are making with their writing and share expertise about the next steps, this all helps the children really get back on track and ready for next year. It was incredible to see over 90 teachers online in different calls having such in depth conversations all about our writing curriculum. This working collectively really does benefit all our children across our schools.

Our Rwinc teachers have been busy this week with a visit from our RWINC consultant who has been able to visit face to face for the first time in over a year. Together with Miss Leaman, who is a Specialist Leaders of Reading, we looked at the incredible teaching RWinc through videos (to minimise the social contact across the school) and made really detailed plans for after Half Term so children are confidently developing their sounds and fluency in reading. This is just another example of how working together as a Trust, we are able to engage in this brilliant professional development for all our staff so all children get a brilliant deal, learning to read!
Welcoming our new EYFS families!

This week saw the start of our Induction for welcoming in our new pupils for EYFS in September. It was brilliant to have so many families join us for our virtual sessions with the EYFS Team. Starting school is such an exciting milestone and we're thrilled to have so many pupils joining our Schools Trust this autumn. Our Trust Chief Executive, Miss Cleverly joined the session to formally welcome parents and is looking forward to popping into Ellacombe again in June so the current children can share their learning with her. We're even going to treat her to a gorgeous school dinner, which of course are all cooked here on site by our Trust Catering Team- yummy!

Half Term Break and Covid Tracking

I'm sure everyone is looking forward to the Half Term Break starting next week and enjoying the sunny weather we're finally due to have! Please remember that pupils return to school on **Monday 14th June** as the second week (Monday 7th- Friday 11th) are our 5 Occasional Days (sometimes called Non Pupil days). We group these together so that families can enjoy a family holiday in the 2nd quieter week. Staff at school work these Non pupil days as twilight sessions throughout the year and this enables high levels of professional learning during each and every term, which the children benefit from through having great teaching.

I'm sure by now all families are really familiar with the Lockdown Roadmap and what we are all permitted to do, especially around foreign travel. Just a reminder then around Test and Trace over



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TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE

the holidays. Staff will continue to use LFT tests throughout the Half Term holiday so you can be assured when we start back on 14th of June, staff will have tested. As Head, I still received a daily COVID email update from the government to keep up with any tweaks or changes. We have been asked to remind parents that they can access LFT tests and that it is important, even over the holidays to be aware and take actions re any symptoms. Here are the dates and info:

- If your child develops symptoms of Coronavirus please do get them tested. If they are positive and these symptoms started today Friday 28th May or Saturday 29th May, please text us using the MyEd app to let us know. Please inform us straight away so that we can work with Torbay Local Authority and Public Health to look at any next steps for our school community.
- If your child tests positive for Coronavirus and their symptoms started after this date, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. As well as this, Torbay Council have asked that we keep them up to date too, so please also inform us via text with the following information: Name of positive person (and relation to the pupil in school e.g. older sister): Date of birth of the positive person: Date symptoms started: Test date: Result: Result date: Date the child (Ellacombe Pupil) was last in school
- The text service will be monitored over the Half Term but not continuously and we will only be picking up and working on anything COVID related.
- If any member of your household has symptoms, please do get a test before pupils return on Monday 14th June. Please then contact us at the start of the new term to let us know this so we can support with Home Learning etc.
- If you do go abroad over half Term, please do follow all the necessary rules around quarantine on return.

Looking after our Wellbeing and Mental Health

We recognise that whilst many families will be able to enjoy the Half Term Break, this time away from the routine of school can be challenging for some. Here is the same information as last week with contacts and support for mental health and wellbeing.

For Grown ups themselves

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>

<https://www.time-to-change.org.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk/>

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/supporting-your-child-s-mental-health/>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/>

<https://www.thepathway2success.com/10-mindfulness-activities-you-can-try-today/>

<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/health/wellness/g32267191/mindfulness-activities/>

<https://www.actionforhappiness.org/app>

<https://www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk/services/mental-health/>

<https://www.citizensadvice.torbay.org.uk/>

Local support Groups

<https://andysmanclub.co.uk/>

<https://womenswellbeingclub.co.uk/>



A lovely group of parents/grandparents/carers, of people with diagnosed and pending diagnosis of disabilities. Here to support each other along this rocky road. Their coffee mornings are a chance for parents/grandparents/carers with children that have additional needs/disabilities, to come together to have a relaxed chat with parents/grandparents/carers in a similar situation. It's a chance to meet new friends and your children to make new friends.

<http://fis.torbay.gov.uk/kb5/torbay/fsd/service.page?id=5hqTbkhVnKY>

Don't forget Miss Andrews and Miss Rose also host our virtual coffee mornings for all parents and carers every other Wednesday at 10.30am. During this time they discuss all sorts, from what the children are up to in school, to tips on places to visit and what's going on in Torbay. It's also a great opportunity to receive parent feedback and build new friendships, as well as have a good catch up and see how you are!



For children

Get help and advice about a wide range of issues, call on 0800 1111, talk to a counsellor online, send Childline an email or post on the message boards.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/> The website has brilliant tools to help discussions at home and even has items children can access a trusted adult who they can share their feelings with.



The UK's leading charity fighting for children and young people's mental health. They also have a Parent's Helpline if you have concerns regarding your child's mental health and need some support. Call the Parents Helpline: 0808 802 5544 (Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4pm, free for mobiles and landlines)

https://youngminds.org.uk/https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/sites/default/files/anxious_child.
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sleep-and-tiredness/healthy-sleep-tips-for-children/>
<https://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do/childrens-wellbeing-activities-for-teaching-staff-and-families.html>

Food Support

The [Torbay Food Alliance](https://www.torbayfoodalliance.org.uk) can provide nutritionally balanced grocery parcels, or prepared food if you are unable to prepare food yourself. If you need to access the Food Bank in your area because you cannot afford to pay for food please call the Torbay Community Helpline on 01803 446022 from 10am until 6pm Monday to Friday and on Saturdays from 9:30am to 12:30pm or go online via www.bit.ly/torbayhelpline

RE4orm is a Community Interest Company based in Torbay. They offer communities advice and guidance with parenting, budgeting, benefits advice, advocacy and more. In response to the Covid-19 crisis, RE4orm pledged to deliver hundreds of meals and food parcels to families in need every week. Contact RE4orm on 07939228339 or visit www.re4orm.org.uk to see what additional food support they are able to offer.

June wellbeing

Every month, Action For Happiness publishes a calendar with daily activity ideas to help us work towards positive mental health and wellbeing. This month, 'joyful June' is all about finding the joy in life, however big or small, even when things are difficult. Experiencing positive emotions can help us to become more resilient. Have you heard of the quote 'smiles are infectious'? It's true! Next time you're out walking or in the shops, if you catch someone's eye, smile at them. You can be sure they will smile back.

'Every day may not good, but there is something good in every day'



Yours Sincerely,

E. Semmens

Mrs E. Semmens

Head of Academy