

Newsletter No 10: Term 3

February 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

Hurrah! We made it to February! I imagine like us here at school you have been feeling the fatigue of continuing to manage the changes thrust upon us by this pandemic so I wanted to share my thanks to you for keeping going.

Engagement with Remote Learning

We understand that learning remotely is not as engaging as learning within class but we are very grateful to parent /carers for continuing to encourage your children to take part in the 'live teaching' sessions on Zoom and working on Seesaw. At the start of Lockdown, we were seeing an average of 60% of children engaging with these sessions. I am really pleased to say that now we have seen an increase to between 85- 90% of children regularly engaging with 'Live teaching' sessions on Zoom and Seesaw. That is an incredible increase in engagement across our school so thank you for all you are doing to facilitate this. Thanks also to our community for providing our families with devices to make engaging with remote learning more accessible.

School re-opening

I think we had all hoped that the children would be back to school after half term but sadly that is not the case. We know that the Government will let us know when this will be possible and we hope to re-open at some point in Term 4. We have a break in learning for half term and then remote learning will start again from Monday 22nd February 2021. Timetables and Zoom links will be emailed on Friday 12th for the week after half term so keep an eye out for these.

Do you have a child with SEND needs?

Bristol City Council is asking children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and their parents and carers to share your views about the services in Bristol. Your feedback will help Bristol to improve SEND services. All those taking part will have the opportunity to be entered into a draw to win one of two £10 'Love to Shop' vouchers that can be spent online or in store at more than 20,000 shops, restaurants and attractions. Each survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. The survey will be live for 7 weeks – closing date 5 March. The results will be published on Bristol's SEND Local Offer website in the summer term.

Click here to take part in the parent carer survey.

<https://bristol.citizenspace.com/education-skills/send-parent-carer-spring-2021/>

School Communication

During this period of school closure, we have been sending out increasing numbers of messages. To ensure that you do not miss out on any important information, please download the School Gateway App on your mobile phone. To find out how to set this up, please visit <https://www.fishpondschurchacademy.bristol.sch.uk/for-parents/school-gateway>. Please make sure you set up your account with the email we hold for you in school to allow your profile to connect to your child.

Parents Evening change of date

Parents Evening has moved to Tues 2nd and Thurs 4th March so that it does not fall in the proposed week for re-opening schools.. There will be one Zoom set up for each evening and parents / carers can book a 10 minute slot to talk about how their child is getting on with remote learning, discuss any concerns or changes in family circumstances that school should be aware of. Sharing information in this way will help us be ready to help your child when school finally re-opens. We look forward to seeing you all then.



Church of England Academy

Principal: Mrs Debbie Coker

Chair of Local Board: Mrs Trish Dodds



Value of the Term : Respect

Week 5: Why is it important to think before you speak?

Week 6: It's easy to show respect to those who think the same as we do. How do we disagree with others respectfully?

Learning to Learn skill for term 3 : Creativity

Whole school Collective Worship takes place on Zoom @ 9.00am on Tuesdays each week. We look forward to seeing your child there! You are welcome to join them and support them in discussing the questions that come up. Zoom links are sent out prior to the sessions.

Term 4 value of the term is Truth

Eastville Park survey

As many of you will know there is research being done to improve upon the breadth and quality of facilities available in our local Eastville Park. The architect Shankari Raj came to speak to the school about this a while back and has since put this survey together in collaboration with 'Friends of Eastville Park' group.

Should you like to take a moment to have your say as to what you'd like to see more of, click the link below:

<https://eastville-park-community-engagement.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/eastville-park-community-engagement-survey>

Book Swap

Wednesday Afternoons between 1pm – 3pm you are welcome to drop in to the Exploration Zone (under the circus tent) to swap any books and collect a pencil / exercise book should you need one. Place read books in the plastic box labelled 'quarantine books' and help yourself to new ones. Don't forget to use wear your facemask, use the hand-gel and socially distance if you see other people.

Struggling? Finding things tough?

If you are struggling or finding things tough, you are not alone. Please reach out and contact our Family Link worker Michelle Cahill on: 07595615388

Keeping children safe online

Now our children are using devices and accessing the internet during lockdown it is important to protect them by setting up parental controls and ensuring that our children are staying safe online. The NSPCC has developed a number of resources to help support parent/ carers with this. I have attached a link to their materials and hope this is helpful.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



Dates for your diaries , with best wishes from Debbie Coker (Principal)

Tuesday 9 th February	3.45pm Zoom meeting of parent /carers workshop for RSE. Those taking part will be sent a link via email.
Wednesday 10 th February 21	Year 1 parent /carer Phonics and Reading meeting. 4pm on Zoom.
Friday 12 th February 21	Last day of term 3 School closed for half term (Monday 15 th Feb – Friday 19 th Feb 21)
Half Term	School closed for half term (Monday 15 th Feb – Friday 19 th Feb 21). There will be no remote learning during this time.
Monday 22 nd February 21	Term 4 begins.
Thursday 4 th March 21	World Book Day! This will be celebrated on Zoom. Information to follow from our English Leaders but we will still be dressing up as book characters for a special Thursday morning assembly @ 9am on this day!
Tuesday 2 nd March and Thursday 4 th March	Parents' Evenings (on Zoom) nb change of date! Information about how to sign up will be emailed out by Mrs Billsberry. Look out for this info and book into have a meeting with the class teacher.
Friday 12 th March	Science Day – As a school we will be celebrating all things 'Science'. Further information to follow.
Thursday 1 st April	Last day of Term 3
Friday 2 nd April (Good Friday)	Easter Holiday break begins
Monday 19 th April	First day back of Term 5.