

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



Friday 15th January 2021

Dear Families

We are now in our second week of this term and our days continue to look very different.

To all of our parents and families who are supporting their children with remote learning at home I just wanted to say a big thank you. You have been very patient and understanding when we have had technical issues and we continue to work to ensure that we are addressing these as they occur.

I wanted to write to you today with some key information that I think is important for you to both be aware of and also to be considering at this time. As I stated throughout our correspondences, I will always endeavour to write to you with such updates as and when it is necessary.

Remote Learning

I wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with some reassurance regarding remote learning. As a staff here at school, we know that you will all be doing your best with remote learning. We completely understand the different situations that many of you find yourselves in at this time. The vast majority of you did not train to be teachers and you now find yourselves in a position where this has become a daily part of your life - that must be very tough.



There have been a number of individual concerns this week regarding how much work you have been able/unable to complete, the time spent on lessons, keeping the children motivated, navigating the whole new world of Google Classroom etc. Please know that if you are experiencing this that you are not alone! The message that I would like to give you at this time is to be kind to yourself. Some days you may find learning together at home easier than others.

Some days you may complete more learning than others. Some days you may all need to pull on your wellies and head out for a walk to rebalance. This is completely normal, especially so early in this process and new way of working. The last thing that I want you to do is to become disheartened with your efforts.

Please do not compare yourself to other families. As I have said, each family is different and faces their own unique situation - you need to work in a way that is the best for you and your children. Please do not feel as though you need to spend time 'catching up' at the evenings and weekends. Working in this way does not always lead to desired outcomes and it is important that you also enjoy time together as a family, to relax and look after your wellbeing.



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TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE

Care & Share Sessions

The teachers and I are keen to support parents with remote learning and we thought that a regular 'Hangout' for parents with the teachers and myself may be a useful forum to share ideas and strategies, ask questions and give us feedback on what is going well. We are going to do two sessions next week as follows:



Session 1

Steeple Cove, Yarmer and Leas Foot Parents
Monday 18th January 1.30 - 2.00pm
meet.google.com/czd-fzci-ufz

Session 2

Sedgewell Cove, Butter Cove and Bantham Parents
Wednesday 20th January 1.30 - 2.00pm
meet.google.com/gox-mzvi-oio

The teachers will put the link for the sessions on their Google Classroom or Tapestry on the day of the session for you all. The teachers for those classes will also join the call.

I know that these times may not suit some of you but we will try different days and times as the term progresses to try to give you all a chance to attend. If you are unable to attend and have a question, then feel free to email it to the office or through the class email and we will bring it up for discussion!

Weekly Assemblies

It was lovely to have so many children join me this week for a short assembly. I loved seeing all of their smiling faces and I was amazed at how confident they were at using the software to put their hands up and mute and unmute! Here are a few of the pictures I have received so far of the penguins hugging. Thank you to Luca, Sam, Anna and Olly. Aren't they fabulous? Please continue to send them through!



Children in School

Thank you to those of you who have thought about my message from Wednesday and have adjusted the days which you are sending your children to school or nursery. We appreciate your support with this. We are happy to maintain some flexibility for those parents who are not now using places but may need to in the future should their circumstances change.

The numbers of children in school are still higher than the first lockdown and I am going to again remind you that while the government says that parents can send their children to nursery and key workers can send their child to school, we ask parents to consider what you **should do compared to what you can do.**

Does your child need to be full time? If a place is absolutely necessary, what is the minimum amount of time they need to be in school? If another adult is working from home, despite any key worker status in the family, please keep your child at home.

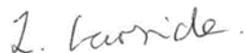
If your child is still using an Educare place and you haven't already considered these questions, could we please ask you to think about it over the weekend and contact the office on Monday if you no longer need a place.

Updated Risk Assessment

Please find attached a parent friendly version of our updated risk assessment

Have a relaxing weekend!

Best Wishes



Miss L Garside
Executive Head