

11 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Half Term**

End of term! Finally! We know how desperate everyone is for the half term break. Everyone has worked so hard with online learning, learning in school, adapting to changes in life, and now we are all looking forward to a rest next week... (Though I use the term 'rest' loosely when I consider the prospect of children being trapped in the house for another week...) I do hope that you find time to get outdoors on local walks, and hopefully we will be lucky to have some dry and bright weather! Just to confirm, we will end term tomorrow (Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Feb) and will resume online learning and learning in school for those children attending on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. If you are looking for ideas to keep yourselves busy you might want to pick some activities from our OPTIONAL extra-curricular theme sheet (attached again for ease of reference). If you want to share anything you make or do, you can add these to the channel on TEAMS.

### **Greatest Dancer Competition**

We have been so impressed by all of the entries that we have received! Thank you for taking the time to participate and we can't wait to judge these tomorrow and announce the winners. Though having had a look at lots of the entries this is going to be a very difficult task.

### **Tomorrow - Bright Clothes Day**

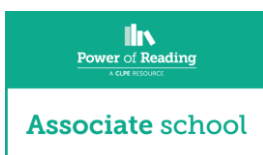
This is our final Friday funday theme of this half term. We look forward to seeing you in your brightest clothes tomorrow to add sunshine and colour to your days! Anything goes tomorrow... dressing up, favourite clothes, whatever you like!

### **National Roles**

We are so lucky at Marksbury Road that a number of our staff also hold an additional national role which means that we can provide support and direction to the trust and share our leadership and curriculum strengths more widely. It also means that we are really able to develop leadership capacity in our growing staff. These days are covered with different staff members in school, but it is important that we protect the days set aside for additional national projects. If you call to speak to a member of staff on a specific day, or email them, please be assured that they will get back to you at their earliest convenience when they are again working at the academy. Generally, the following staff members are released for national work in the following roles and on the following days, however these are subject to change:

Mrs Robinson – National Lead for Reading – Tuesday  
Mrs Paterson- National Lead Practitioner for Reading – Thursday  
Miss Stevens – National Lead Practitioner for RE – Friday  
Miss Parsons – National Lead Practitioner for Early Years – Day TBC  
Miss Brooks – National Lead Practitioner for Behaviour – Day TBC

**Principal – Clare Robinson**



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In the event of Mrs Paterson being off site, all Safeguarding queries and concerns are picked up by myself or Miss Foster who are Deputy Safeguarding Leads.

**iPad queries**

Please continue to report any issues with iPads to the IT Service Desk on 0207 921 4330. This number is also printed on the iPad sticker and can also be found on the [Horizons section of our academy website](#). A problem can often be sorted over the phone, however if the iPad needs to be seen by a technician, you will then be contacted by the local IT team who will call you to arrange a time to drop off the iPad to be looked at in person. Please follow the above procedure for screen breaks too.

Wishing you all the most relaxing of breaks after the most frantic of terms! I hope you all treat yourselves to a luxurious end of half term teacher gift!

Yours,  
Clare