

26 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy Friday! After a soggy gate duty this morning the sun has come out – and let's hope it stays for the weekend!

Just a few points for your attention this week in addition to all of the fabulous content that you'll find on the weekly updates on the class website pages.

Covid Symptoms

Please be mindful that we are still being incredibly vigilant around covid symptoms and we are so grateful to the understanding shown by parents who have been called when their children have displayed a symptom in school. Just to clarify, if your child has a symptom they **MUST** get a PCR test or self-isolate for 10 days. Some parents have enquired about lateral flow tests and whether we can take this as an indicator of a negative result. Unfortunately this is not an option, as although lateral flow tests are useful in picking up asymptomatic cases of the virus, they are not accurate enough to use with only a 75% accuracy rate. I'm sure you'll understand how careful we need to be on this with so many children and staff working together.

Good Friday

Just a reminder, school will finish on Thursday 1st April (it's not a joke) – as Friday is a bank holiday. We will look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 19th April at 8:30am.

Names on uniform

It's creeping towards some sunnier weather and children are now more inclined to be taking off jumpers and cardigans and misplacing them – please make sure their names are in uniform – even if you just use a pen on a label – This makes it possible to reunite the items with their owners!

Breakfast and After School Club

Please ensure that you do pay for breakfast and after school club sessions **at the time of booking** and do not let your account fall in to a negative balance. This means that the academy finances have to be used to put the accounts in to a positive, and it in turn takes from other areas of need. Breakfast Club and After School Club is wrap around child care, in the same way that a childminder would be, and fees must be paid in the same way. I'm going to check the accounts next week as we draw to the end of term and will then have to limit attendance if balances aren't settled. Thank you so much for your understanding.

Academy Office – dropping off items

If you need to drop anything off at the office next week you will find a storage box outside. Just buzz the office and let them know what you are dropping off and who it's for and then the admin team will come out and collect it. This will limit the number of people coming in to the academy and hopefully further reduce the risk of virus transmission.

Reading at Home

It's been a little while since I've written about this, but since being back we've noticed that this is something that has lost a bit of momentum. Please do make sure that you are reading with your child at home every day.

Principal – Clare Robinson

Marksbury Road, Bedminster, Bristol, BS3 5JL
Tel: 0117 312 6500 Email: info@oasismarksburyroad.org

www.oasisacademymarksburyroad.org



The difference it makes is massive! At school we really focus on developing the knowledge of sounds and words, and then we move on to developing comprehension skills. Reading at home very regularly allows the children to practice the skills of fluency and over-reading which is particularly important when we look at how fluently a child can read. As professionals in school, we do not get obsessed with the levels that the children are reading (more to follow on this for R, Y1 and Y2 next week) – but rather we focus on time spent becoming so familiar with reading words that it becomes a natural process and then the comprehension can become the focus.

Please do support us with this – read anything – read to them – and read with them, and remember that five minutes every day is better than 25 minutes in one block each week.

For older children, they might not like to read aloud to you, but a great game to play is seeing if they can read 110 words aloud to you in 60 seconds. They might not be able to yet – but they'll love recording their attempts and watching how they progress with speed reading!

Thanks as always for all of your support.

Kindest regards,
Clare