

08 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here we are at the end of another busy week! Here are just a few updates for you!

Welcoming some new families to Marksbury Road!

I'm really excited to share an important update with you on some new children and families that we will be welcoming to the school next week. In collaboration with Bristol City Council, we are privileged to be able to provide spaces for a number of children who recently were evacuated from Afghanistan. As you may know from the news, many of these children and their families will have been through an extremely difficult time in recent weeks and months, and we have the opportunity to provide them with a safe, warm, welcoming space, where they can learn together as well as make friendships and enjoy a degree of normality after a time of significant change. I know that we as an academy family will welcome these children and will do all we can to help them in their hour of need, and I will be speaking with our children in assembly today to explain how they can help. Arrangements are still being finalised, but we are of course trying to minimise disruption so that both our existing pupils and our new arrivals can enjoy a calm and inspiring teaching and learning environment.

An idea from Claire, our Family Liaison Worker

It has been lovely meeting all of your children now that we are bubble free. The children have been amazing and have taken everything in their stride. As parents, we obviously want to know what is happening in our children's lives when they're not with us and to know about their school day / experiences. When my own children were young, I remember being so excited at pick up time to find out how their day went and then feeling very frustrated in getting one word replies from them both. I realised pretty quickly that if I wanted to find out more about my child's day and what was happening in their life, I needed to prepare myself with some questions that require more than a yes / no answer.

I have put together some questions that will hopefully get you child talking.

Please let me know how you get on.

Good luck!

Claire

1. What did you do today to make your brain work really hard?
2. Who did you sit next to at lunchtime?
3. Who did you play with at break time?
4. Did anything make you cry / cross today?
5. What's the hardest rule to follow at school?
6. Did you need to ask your teacher for help with anything today?
7. Who do you most enjoy talking to at school?
8. Where's the best place to hang out at playtime?
9. What would you do if you felt lonely at playtime?
10. If you could change one thing about school, what would it be?

Inset Day

Just a gentle reminder that Friday 22nd October is an INSET Day at the academy – this is a national training day for all Oasis staff. Half term will follow this INSET day and then we will look forward to welcoming the children back to the academy on Monday 1st November.

School Photos

It was great to be able to welcome photographers back into school this week. The children will be bringing home a form which contains a QR code which you can scan to order any photos that you want.

October is Black History Month

We are celebrating Black History Month through October as we do every year. This year we are using stories of inspirational people to celebrate this special month. Do take time to talk to your children about the stories they have heard and new learning they have encountered. The following year groups will be focussing on the following people throughout October:

Reception and Year 1 – Marvin Rees

Year 2 – Marcus Rashford

Year 3 – Benjamin Zephaniah

Year 4 – Maya Angelou

Year 5 – Rosa Parks

Year 6 – Floella Benjamin

Wishing you a lovely weekend!

Clare