



Tiverton Academy

Newsletter



28/09/2020

Dear Parents,

The atmosphere in school remains extremely positive and the children and staff have settled into their new routines really well. It has been lovely to see the children dancing outside, continuing to have music lessons in smaller groups and exploring the environment during their Forest School lessons. Our topics are well underway and I have seen some very exciting entry points and knowledge harvests, which show we have got off to an exciting start and established the children's current knowledge of their topics. We are continuing our 'Reading for Pleasure' project with the Open University and Rebecca Kennedy, so please encourage your child/children to read as much as they can at home. It is lovely to find out about what the children are reading for pleasure at home. Thank you once again for your support and patience as we make our way through the term.

Drop off and pick up times

Our systems for dropping off and collecting children at the start and end of the day are working really smoothly now. I'm sure you are aware, infection rates in Birmingham are high at the moment. It is also worth noting that the students are back at Birmingham University and Selly Oak (Tiverton Road included) is extremely busy at the moment. With that in mind we would like to remind you that wearing a mask or face covering when dropping off and collecting your child is highly recommended. Please continue to observe social distancing of 2m when you are waiting on or outside of the school grounds and also if you are talking to any member of staff that is on the school gate or entrance. Thank you in advance.

Parent Pay Reminder

If you have not managed to set up your Parent Pay account yet, please do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions or queries please contact the School Office on 0121 464 3125 to speak to Mrs Gaskin or Mrs Teasdale.

Weather

As the weather seems to be getting colder now, please ensure your child has a coat with them in school. We are trying as far as possible to do our PE lessons outside and would ask that children also have a pair of jogging bottoms in their PE kit to help keep them warm.

COVID update

Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline opening hours

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline remains available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children's social care.

Please listen carefully to the available options and select the most appropriate to your nursery, school, or college's current situation. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling: Phone: 0800 046 8687 Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 4pm

Please see the letter below from Doctor Justin Varney (Director of Public Health).....



21st September 2020

Dear parent/carers,

It's been wonderful to see children back at school, learning and seeing their friends again. I know the past few months have been hard on all of us and I'd like to thank you for your continued support.

You will have seen some changes to the way your school operates so I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of why these are vital to the safe running of school; please remember that although many aspects of society have opened up again, although in a different way, the virus has not gone away.

While changes will vary from school to school, depending on such things as building layout and number of pupils, the differences you will notice could include:

- Staggered drop-off and collection at the start and end of the day to minimise the number of people at the school entrance.
- Children will be in 'bubbles' to reduce contact as much as possible, but allow them to learn and play with friends.
- If a child or staff member within a bubble shows symptoms or is infected then the bubble may need to isolate, but the school will communicate with parents if this happens.
- Asking children to wash their hands even more than usual, use hand sanitisers and follow any one-way systems while staying apart as much as possible.

I know some of these changes may be hard to get used to, and they may be

frustrating, but they are entirely in order to keep all children, staff and parents safe.

I would therefore ask for your continued patience and consideration as we all do our best to help each other get through this difficult and unusual time. School staff have been working so hard to ensure schools are a safe environment for learning and playing, so please do what you can to support them and each other and we will get through this. Please also keep in mind that it is important that we all play our part in not going for a test unless we have one of the three covid symptoms, a temperature, new continuous cough or loss of sense of taste or smell, or if we are asked to by the NHS or public health teams.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak directly to your school – they are here to help.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Justin Varney

Director of Public Health

Birmingham City Council

B7 4BL

Birmingham City Council Director of Public Health 10 Woodcock Street Birmingham

School Term Dates: 2020 to 2021

Please see below for term dates 2020/21. This also includes teacher training days.

Autumn Term 2020

Term Starts: Tuesday 1 September 2020

Half Term: Monday 26 October 2020 to Friday 30 October 2020

Term Ends: Friday 18 December 2020

TEACHER DAY Tuesday 1st September

TEACHER DAY Wednesday 2nd September

Spring Term 2021

Term Starts: Monday 4 January 2021

Half Term: Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 February 2021

Term Ends: Thursday 1 April 2021

TEACHER DAY Monday 4th January

Summer Term 2021

Term Starts: Monday 19 April 2021

Half Term: Monday 31 May 2021 to Friday 4 June 2021

Term Ends: Wednesday 21 July 2021

TEACHER DAY Monday 19th April

TEACHER DAY Monday 7th June