



News Update

Spring Term 4 Week 3

13th March 2020

Diary dates

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| Parent/ Carers Open morning. Maths in Action | 18th March 9.00—9.30am |
| Parent Consultation Meetings | 25th March 2.30-7.00pm |
| Assessment and SATs meeting Yr 2 | 26th March 9-9.30am |
| Assessment and Phonics Meeting Yr 1 | 1st April 9-9.30am |
| Assessment and the Curriculum meeting Yr R | 2nd April -After reading morning to 9.30am. |
| Spring celebration | 3rd April |
| Easter Break | 6th—17th April |
| Inset day: Focus - Curriculum & Pupil Engagement | 20th April |
| Year 1 Cake Sale | 30th April 3.10pm |
| Sports Day | 26th June 1.30pm |

Recognition Awards

Reception: Khaya, Ameerah, Zara, James, Summer M, Fatimah.

Year 1: Phoebe, Iris, Akif, Millie, Luca, Maisie.

Year 2: Max, Morgan, Harry, Dharmik, Jasmine, Ibrahim

Clean and Safe

To help keep our community safe and healthy we are firmly promoting the regular washing of hands. We have hand sanitizer and soap available throughout the academy. Could you please also encourage your children at home to get into the good habits of regular and thorough handwashing after using the toilet, before and after eating, after coughing or sneezing etc.

Academy Update

It has been an absolute delight to walk around the academy and share lessons and activities the children have participated in this week. My particular highlights were talking to our reception children about the dangers of plastic in the oceans, Year 1 children being so focussed in their phonics lessons and seeing performance poetry in Year 2.

I also had the pleasure to meet the Pupil Parliament representatives this week. We discussed how they could further support the running of the academy and were introduced to the children in our Tuesday assembly. I am really looking forward to working with them in the future!

Classroom Astronauts



Our Year 1 children went on a special mission this week – fact finding about the planets in our solar system.

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With the help of Education Group and their Virtual Reality Headsets they climbed aboard a space probe to complete a journey comparing Mars and the Earth, learning about craters and volcanoes and investigating



red spot hurricanes and storms.



Parents' Consultation Evening

Letters about meetings to discuss the progress of your children have been sent home. Please make sure you return your slips with your requested time slots as soon as possible. The sessions will run from 2.30pm until 7.30pm on Wednesday 25th March.

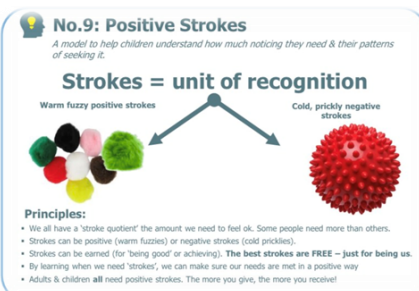
Behaviour for Learning – The Empowerment Approach

Being 'Bucket fillers' in our Academy is important and we spent lots of time last term understanding how to fill each others buckets of needs in positive ways (If you missed this – do check back on our previous newsletters and take a look at the book). This week we have revisited this and used our knowledge about how we all have different needs to identify when we may need to help fill a bucket.

When a young person's needs are not met well, it's as if they have a stomach full of pricklies.



They then start acting in prickly ways.



Juniors on the playground

We very much welcome older siblings to our playground at the beginning and end of our day, whilst waiting for younger siblings. They are very much part of academy community. However, please could we politely request that children refrain from riding their bikes and scooters across the playground. This is in the interests of safety for our younger children. There is a designated area for scooters near the MUGA.

In addition, we have had reports that some older siblings have been using their phones on the playground taking photos and filming their games. In the interests of safeguarding and privacy of our children, please can I ask parents support us in encouraging phones not to be used for pictures and filming of games on the playground at the end of the day. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Safeguarding

What's App – a useful way to stay in touch particularly with groups of friends communally via messages, photos, recordings etc. However, whoever sets up the group can add anyone they like, which could expose your child to contact with strangers, or to inappropriate content. You can leave a group, but the only way to ensure you are not added back in is to block the 'admin' person.

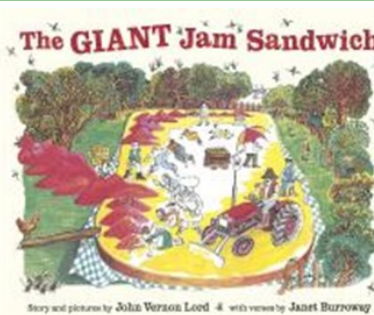
For more information check out www.onlinesafetyalliance.org.

Class Photographs

Class photograph proofs and ordering information should have come home via book-bags, except for Aldrin—due to a printing error which is being rectified. Examples of class photographs can be seen in the office windows.

Book Of The Week

The story, told in rhyming couplets, of how the resourceful villagers of Itching Down hatch an ingenious plan to rid their community of a plague of wasps. Try reading it aloud to a rap rhythm!



Maths Morning

Come and see our maths in action next Wednesday as we open our classrooms to parents and carers. Following from the successful maths workshops last month you are invited to join us at 9am—please come and sign in at the main hall after dropping the children to class. After a brief welcome and explanation of what a typical lesson looks like, you will have the opportunity to join your child in class and get involved in a practical maths activity.

The session will finish by 9.40am and, as usual, you will be asked to exit via the front reception and the gates/ pathway out to Crawley Lane. Gates from the rear playground will be locked to ensure the security of the site.

Once again we would ask that pushchairs are not brought into the corridors and classrooms to ensure emergency exits remain clear.

Strengthening Links

We welcomed a group of Junior pupils in to assembly on Wednesday to talk about life at our linked school and particularly about their roles as animal monitors to the school dog Poppy, rabbits and guinea pigs.

This was the first of a planned series of visits strengthening links between the schools to help with transition for our children. Other aspects to be focussed on will include reading buddies and play leaders.



Spring Celebration

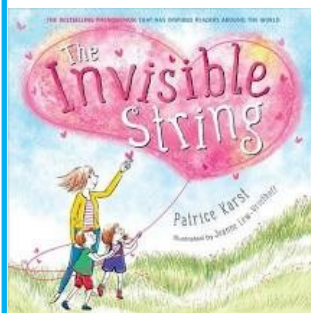
We are excited to let you know the arrangements for this year's Spring Celebration, on Friday 3rd April 2020. All children are warmly invited to participate in an Spring Bonnet Parade and a number of spring-related activities to be planned by the class teachers.



Spring Bonnet parade – All children can make a decorative Spring bonnet/hat. You may decide, for example, to add spring flowers, toy chicks, toy bunny rabbits or pictures representing spring. We look forward to seeing your children's creations!

Inclusion

We are always looking for new ways to further support our pupils. Vikki Heasman will be using 'The Invisible Sting' storybook to work with selected pupils who are anxious when coming into school and saying goodbye to their parents. The



concept behind the book is that we all connected by an invisible string of love that we cannot see but we know is there. If you would like to find out more about this, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Hillebron or Mrs Ellis.

Assessment updates

In preparation for your child's statutory assessments and final teacher judgements we would like to warmly invite parents/carers to information mornings. These are designed to support you in your understanding of:

- ◆ Why we administer these assessments
- ◆ How staff will administer the assessments
- ◆ How the assessments inform your child's future learning
- ◆ How the outcomes will be reported to you as parents

Year 2 Parents - Assessment and SATs meeting: Thursday 26th March 9am – 9.30am. Led by Mr Jordan and Mrs North

Year 1 Parents – Assessment and Phonics screening meeting: Wednesday 1st April 9am-9.30am. Led by Mrs Ellis and Mr Jordan

Reception Parents – Assessment and the Curriculum: Thursday 2nd April - 9am (straight after reading morning) – 9.30am. Led by Ms Thayre and Miss Blackie.

All meetings will be held in the academy hall. Please make your way to hall once you have dropped your child off in the normal way.

Coronavirus

Please note the academy SLT and University of Brighton Academies Trust are taking every preventative action, in accordance with Government guidelines. We will of course endeavour to keep you updated with any further guidance if and when this is provided. Until this point, the academy will remain open and lessons will carry on as normal. Please find further information below to support your understanding as to what the academy is doing and how you can support us. Thank you for your support and cooperation during this period.

What is Coronavirus?

The incubation period of COVID-19 is between 2 and 14 days. This means that if a person remains well 14 days after contact with someone with confirmed coronavirus, it is unlikely that they have been infected.

The following symptoms may develop in the 14 days after exposure to someone who has COVID-19 infection:

- Cough
- difficulty in breathing
- fever

Please note, there is no evidence that children are more affected than other age groups – very few cases have been reported in children.

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In addition to this, the government are now recommending that anyone who is experiencing a new persistent cough or fever in children (with a temperature above 38C) from today (Friday 13th March 2020) self isolate for 7 days.

What have the children been told?

Washing their hands often - with soap and water:

- before leaving home
- on arrival at school
- after using the toilet
- after breaks and sporting activities
- before eating any food, including snacks
- before leaving school

use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available

avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands

Covering their cough into their arm

Catching a sneeze in a tissue and then throwing the tissue in a bin. Catch it, Bin it, Kill it!

What is the academy doing in addition to this?

Visitors to the academy are requested to use the hand alcohol gel available at the front office.

Tissues boxes are positioned around the academy.

Staff are frequently cleaning and disinfecting touched objects and surfaces around the academy. Posters have been placed around the academy reminding children and staff to wash their hands.

Hand-washing technique with soap and water

