

PROPELLER ACADEMY TRUST
Fitzwaryn

'Through learning to learn, pupils will access society'

Headteacher:
MRS. S CONEBOY B.Ed.(Hons.)

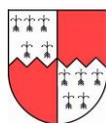
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23rd February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope that you were all able to enjoy a half term break.

It has been wonderful to see more children returning to school this week, there are definitely lots of smiles and much more of a 'buzz' around school!

Now that the government has released the details of the roadmap out of lockdown, we can all look forward to some brighter days ahead and hopefully make plans to increase our social contacts that have been sadly lacking for some time now. The situation regarding schools 'returning' does not really affect us since we have been open all the way through; we are expecting all pupils to be back in school on March 8th unless your child is classed as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable and therefore has a shielding letter.

This week, a few parents have requested an earlier start date for their child. Unfortunately, given the information that we received by the deadline before half term and due to the complexity of planning based on staffing levels and safe working practices, we will be unable to process these requests. Your child's class teacher will be contacting you as previously.

Home learning resources will be available on the website for weeks 1 and 2 of this term. However, as we are expecting all children back, the home learning pages will cease from March 8th, although we will leave the resources up there for a short while longer.

Transport – I believe that the SEN transport department is working on their plan for March 8th and beyond. We will update the department regarding numbers on a weekly basis. However, please ring transport to let them know when your child will be returning to school.



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In September when we all returned to school, we were following our 'Restorative' curriculum model. However, this time we will be following our full curriculum model but there are still some elements that we cannot yet implement due to safety reasons, including yoga, cooking for all classes, swimming, hydrotherapy and RDA. Our work in the community is still compromised but we will keep everything under review and recommence when it is safe to do so.

We do recognise however, that this pandemic will have had a profound effect on many of our staff and pupils and therefore continue with our focus on Mental Health and Well Being. Some of the work that we completed previously through our Restorative Curriculum was highly successful and will continue into the future.

One piece of really good news is that at the beginning of half term, I received notification that all Special School staff had been added to the priority list for COVID vaccinations. Therefore, most school staff received their first vaccination last week with the second dose due in early May.

I am also aware that some of our older pupils, those who are over 16 have also been offered a vaccination.

For the time being, we are continuing with our current Risk Assessment in place which includes the children working within their 'bubbles', the wearing of face masks for staff outside of the classroom, good hand and respiratory hygiene, social distancing where possible and the completion of twice weekly lateral flow tests for staff.

Please continue to be vigilant regarding E Safety. There are plenty of resources on the website to help you. We have been experiencing an increase in reports of some of the older pupils not managing to use their technology, including their telephones in an appropriate way and this is causing distress amongst some of the pupils outside of school. Young people with Learning Difficulties can find the world of technology extremely confusing especially when they do not understand the consequences of their words and actions. Please continue to monitor your child's use of technology and ask for support from us if you need it.

Your child's class teacher will be in touch very soon with regards to the work that will be going on this term.

We have World Book Day on 4th March and Comic Relief on 19th March to look forward to in addition to the exciting learning opportunities that will be provided throughout the term, more details to follow.

Term dates for 2021 – 2022 have now been set, you can find them on the website:
<https://www.fitzwaryn.oxon.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1136&type=pdf>

Please contact the school should you have any queries.

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing all children back to school on 8th March.

Best wishes
Stephanie Coneboy
Headteacher