

PROPELLER ACADEMY TRUST
Fitzwaryn

'Through learning to learn, pupils will access society'

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

Chair of Governors:
Mrs J Maberley

Telephone: (01235) 764504

Fax: (01235) 768728

E.mail:

head.7027@fitzwaryn.oxon.sch.uk



Denchworth Road
Wantage
Oxon
OX12 9ET

VAT 175 3789 64

1st April

Dear Parents,

I hope that you and your families are remaining well under the current restrictions.

Thank you for the lovely photographs that you are sending in of your children; they are wonderful and making us smile every day! Mr Slatter is working hard to reorganise the website so we can show what you have been keeping busy with - keep sending them in to the office email address office.7027@fitzwaryn.oxon.sch.uk

I am also impressed that so many of you have already joined the 'Keeping the Fitzwaryn Community Strong' Facebook page – it is great to see you sharing your experiences, keeping connected and obviously getting support from one another. I think that Mrs Gordon singing the school song was a definite hit! There will be no excuses now when we sing it at a parent assembly!

A message from Clair Taylor:

"I've been blown away by the positive response to the Facebook group and thank you all for your support in making it such a friendly, caring community space. It's been a real joy, at this very bizarre time, to see the pupils' smiling faces and how they are keeping busy, so please keep the posts coming - you really are "Keeping the Fitzwaryn Community Strong!"

Home Learning

Hopefully you will have access to the Home Learning on the website – please let us know if you don't and we will see what we can do to support. We have been able to send out packs to families by post, just give the school a ring and let us know what you need.

However, we fully recognise that not all children will be able to undertake regular 'learning' tasks – the focus, I expect, is settling your child/children into a new routine and rhythm of life that works for you and your family. Some of our pupils naturally separate school and home life and 'never the twain shall meet'! We understand that adding in an expectation to 'learn' at home can create very stressful times for everyone. You may just want to focus on some 'core' routine tasks each day – and don't forget – life skills can be



Registered Office: Fitzwaryn School, Denchworth Road, Wantage, Oxon OX12 9ET
Tel: 01235 764504 **Website:** www.pract.org.uk
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practised every day. We have heard some lovely stories from families where children have been encouraged to bake, cook, wash up and make their bed!

You should be receiving a call from a member of the teaching team to catch up with you where you can discuss home learning should you wish to. If you have changed your contact details recently, or if you haven't heard from anyone, do let us know.

Changes in the Nursing Team

Our Special School Nurses are soon to be temporarily redeployed to assist in other areas of the NHS. We have been assigned a Health Visitor to help us out; to keep in touch with our families where there are health concerns and to support us at school. Her name is Jackie Brown and she is spending some of this week here at school, meeting with Natalie and Sarah for a handover.

Jackie's work mobile is 07785501464

Email Jackie.brown@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Education and Health Care Plans – Annual Reviews

For some of you, who had an EHCP meeting booked in before the Easter break, we are trying to get them completed as soon as possible. Some meetings have taken place over the phone and for others we are having to send information via post/ email. Someone should contact you to discuss the way forward with your meeting.

If you have an EHCP Annual review meeting after the Easter holidays, I will be in touch with a plan to get those completed – I will endeavour to keep things on track as much as we possibly can so we don't have a backlog.

Free School Meals

All families who are entitled to benefit linked Free School Meals should have had food deliveries/collections and a supermarket voucher to spend – please remember to send in your receipts once you have spent them – this is a strict requirement for our financial audits. The government has now launched their scheme where children eligible for free school meals can benefit from a national scheme. Families of children who are eligible will receive a voucher via school.

We will now be working on this and will be communicating the information to eligible families as soon as we are able to!

NB if your circumstances have changed recently and you think you may now be eligible for free school meals please contact the school office and we can do a simple check on your behalf.

Health and Wellbeing

Everyone's health and wellbeing are our top priorities and we are here to help you as much as we possibly can – please let us know if there is anything we can do to support.

If your child is anxious or worried about the Coronavirus, you can download advice from the Childrens Commissioner <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/cco-childrens-guide-to-coronavirus.pdf>

Whilst children are at home, consideration needs to be made to keep children safe online, below are some useful resources:

- Thinkyouknow (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)
- Internet matters (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- Parent info (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- LGfL (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- Net-aware (support for parents and careers from the NSPCC)

Please remember – It is vital to let us know if your child or anyone in your household develops symptoms of the virus, please contact the school immediately

I would like to remind all parents about the guidance for self-isolating when someone in the household develops coronavirus symptoms.

It is very important that individuals with symptoms that may be due to coronavirus and their household members stay at home. Staying at home will help control the spread of the virus to friends, the wider community, and particularly the most vulnerable.

Those with symptoms should remain at home for 7 days after the onset of their symptoms. This will reduce the risk of infecting others.

- If you live with someone who develops or has symptoms, the whole household needs to self-isolate for 14 days from the day their symptoms started. This is because it can take 14 days for symptoms to appear.
- If more than 1 person at home has symptoms, self-isolate for 14 days from the day the first person started having symptoms.
- If you get symptoms, self-isolate for 7 days from when your symptoms start, even if it means you're self-isolating for longer than 14 days.
- If you do not get symptoms, you can stop self-isolating after 14 days.

I do hope that we can come together as a school community as soon as we are able to.

Rest assured, the staff; including the Senior Leadership Team, Teachers, TAs, Admin, OSLO, Finance, Site and IT are working hard to keep things going until such time that things get back to 'normal'.

In the meantime, stay safe, look after one another and please follow the Government's guidelines.

Best wishes

Stephanie Coneboy

Headteacher



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