



WARLEY
ROAD
Academy

Warley Road Academy

Newsletter No 3

23rd October 2020

NEWSLETTER

Thank you to everyone for all your support this half term. We have worked hard to get the children back as smoothly as possible and into a routine which supports their learning and well-being. Almost inevitably we have not been without positive cases and unfortunately reception classes had to be closed. As we continue to navigate the challenges presented by Covid 19, I'd like to thank you for your patience and for adhering to our rules regarding face coverings and social distancing. As we all know these restrictions will be with us for some time and it is my hope that as we start back for Autumn 2, we can re-establish routines and systems. For your information, when we are alerted to a positive case our immediate response is to track back to create a timeline of actions and contacts. We then contact Public Health England in Calderdale who then advise on a course of action.

I'm hoping everyone has a pleasant half term and we are able to get outside to enjoy the autumnal weather! I'll look forward to seeing all the children on Wednesday 4th November, refreshed and ready for a busy half term.

Changes to the school week

Following the full governing body meeting on Thursday 15th October and wider consultation with parents and carers, I am writing to confirm that from Wednesday 4th November pupils will be required to stay in school until 3.15pm on a Friday rather than finishing at 1.15pm. Of the responses to the consultation, the vast majority of comments were in favour of the change agreeing that all children now, more than ever needed more time in school to ensure that any lost learning could be made up as quickly as possible. **All pupils (excluding nursery) now start at 8.50am finish at 3.15pm.**

Big Sunbeams: 8.40am – 11.40am morning session. 12.15pm – 3.15pm afternoon session

Little Sunbeams : 8.40am – 11.40am morning session 12 noon – 3.00pm afternoon session

Online learning

Following an audit of provision, we have now moved to a system, which allows all year groups access to Chrome books 1 per pupil. The next stage of development is to invest in a suite of software, which can be used both at home and in school. There are several packages, which have been developed over the last few months and we will provide regular updates about the packages we subscribe to. In some cases, pupils will be able to log on to continue their learning at home. In the event that pupils are sent home due to Covid 19, in addition to providing packs of work, staff have been working on creating lesson profiles, which access the 'Oak National Academy' website- <https://www.thenational.academy>

We also always recommend using the time at home to read (preferably every day), practice times tables and get creative (felt tips, paper and glue!). We are able to support families requiring resources and requests should be made via email at office@warleyraodacademy

Lesley Heathcote

Staffing news

Congratulations to Emma Broadbent appointed as Early Years Practitioner and lead professional in Little Sunbeams. Congratulations also to Miss Harvey Manak our new Year 2 teacher alongside Mrs Patel.

We say goodbye to Mrs Carol Wilkinson and Mrs Chole Smith at the end of this half term after a long and dedicated service to the children and families of Warley Road. On behalf of everyone, I am sending our very best wishes for their future plans.

Reminders

ParentPay



As we move to a cashless payment system after the holiday, please make sure that you have activated your ParentPay account as we will not be accepting any cash after half term. Please activate your account even if your child is entitled to Free School Meals or is in Nursery, as ParentPay will be used for all payments in school including trips.

Once your ParentPay account is up and running please be sure to check it regularly to ensure all payments are up to date. Dinner patterns are based on the slip that parents and carers recently returned and children need to stick to this pattern for at least the half term. Any changes after this need to be made via the School Office, if you don't give us prior notice of the change then you will still be charged.

If you have any queries please contact the School office and we thank you for supporting this initiative, which will provide greater flexibility for families.

The Uniform Shop

New Uniform

Our supplier will be The Uniform Shop on Union Street in Halifax and you have been issued with a voucher which can be redeemed for a new jumper. **The uniform is now in stock at the Uniform Shop so you are now able to take your voucher to the shop and exchange it for either a sweatshirt or cardigan.** The old-style sweatshirts can still be worn up until the end of the spring term when we envisage all children wearing the new jumpers. We do still have some of the existing style in school and these can be requested (free of charge) via your child's class.

Year 6 children will be receiving an additional grey sweatshirt, and this will be distributed at school. (You are able to take your Year 6 child's existing grey sweatshirt to The Uniform Shop where they will add the new school logo free of charge. Please take them to the shop by Monday 26th October and then pick them up on either Monday 2nd or Tuesday 3rd November)

Breakfast Club

This will be re-started after the half term holiday. Mrs Schofield will continue to manage all aspects of this provision and can answer questions and queries when she returns after half term.

Year 6 Secondary Applications

The closing date for applying for a secondary school place is **31st October 2020**. If you haven't yet applied, you need to visit www.calderdale.gov.uk/admissions before this date.

Dates

School closes today for the Half Term holiday and re-opens on Wednesday 4th November.