



# Warley Road Academy

Newsletter No 6

26th January 2021

## NEWSLETTER

Despite being a headteacher for a number of years, I don't think I have ever had such a difficult start to the Spring term. January and February often present additional challenges, the snow inevitably arrives, the winter vomiting bug makes an appearance, and the days seem very long indeed. Of course, I look back now and wonder why it seemed a challenge at all! The 'Beast from the East' in 2018 hardly seems worth a mention! So, I'd like to thank everyone for their continued support, patience and resilience during these very difficult times. At the end of last week, we finally felt like we had achieved a resemblance of normality, albeit very different from the one we are used to.

I know families will find different aspects of the current lockdown difficult, but please be assured that we will continue to do our very best to support both the children and community of Warley Road. To that end I was delighted to see 44 laptops distributed on Friday with a further 30 due to go out this week. Support for free school meals, vouchers and the launch of the national scheme was organised and is up and running. Online learning made the tricky migration to a new platform, a move needed in order to distribute the 44 laptops we received from the DfE.

Over the coming weeks we aim to continue refining our blended learning offer and will be distributing paper packs to those families unable to access online learning and to the very youngest children, where online isn't always appropriate.

Please take the time to read the newsletter carefully, there are a number of important news items, which will help us to help you and this specifically relates to email address and the personal data we hold. Take time for yourselves, your family and wherever possible take a break from the screens, venture outside and enjoy the freedoms nature and the outdoors has to offer.

**Lesley Heathcote**

### Blended learning attendance:

I wanted to share the following information so that we could celebrate the enormous commitment from everyone at Warley Road to access the blended learning offer we have created. This includes those children in school and those accessing online lessons.

In the week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> January average attendance in Key stage 2 was:

Year 6- 78%,

Year 5- 86%,

Year 4- 55%,

Year 3- 76%



We expect the percentage to rise this week as a result of more devices going home. Paper packs will be offered to families with children in Early years and Key stage 1. Weekly attendance figures will be posted weekly on the School App.

## Social media and the Lockdown

Warley Road has its own Twitter account and its own App. PLEASE check out both and download the App immediately. We will be using both platforms to share important information quickly but also to celebrate the work of our children whilst trying to retain a sense of community. Instructions for the school App can be found below and for Twitter users, simply search for Warley Road. We will also make sure to 'like' great ideas and free resources for home learning.



### App instructions:

1. Navigate your way to the app store. If you have an apple phone, then it is called the app store. If you have an android, it is called the Google Play Store.
2. Once on your store, use the search box to search for School Jotter. Download School Jotter.
3. Once downloaded, you will be asked to enter your school name. Make sure to enter Warley Road Primary Academy and tap on the school located.
4. Please phone school and ask for Mr King if you experience problems.



## Parent Pay

We have moved to a cashless payment system and all parents have been asked to sign up to ParentPay. If you haven't had an opportunity to move over to the new system, this is a good time to get things sorted before the wider opening to all pupils. Please note that outstanding debts under the old system MUST be paid in full before dinners can be purchased.



Please phone and ask for Mrs Donnelley regarding outstanding payments and for support with setting up Parent Pay.

## New Uniform

The launch of the new uniform coincided with the introduction of the Tier system and following that the 2<sup>nd</sup> lockdown in November. We do have quite a few items left in school with the old logo, which we are now going to continue to 'use up' through this academic year. If any parent or carer would like some additional uniform, please phone and speak to Mrs Hussain, who will arrange a time for collection.



## Staffing news, roles and responsibilities

As we continue to drive school improvement during this period, I thought it would be useful to share some information about who manages different aspects of the curriculum and management systems at Warley Road.

I.C.T Technical support and devices	Online learning and blended learning offer	Meals and attendance	Site and grounds	Covid 19 management and response
Miss Norman	Mrs Tindal (Key stage 1)	Miss Hutton	Mr Caldicott	Mrs Heathcote
Miss Clark	Mr Sladdin (Key stage 2)	Mr Meehan	Mr Stewart	Mr Horsfall (Impact Multi academy Trust)
Mr King (Phone support between 9 -10am)	Miss Razaq (Early Years)			Mr Ecclestone (Chair of governors)

We have had an increased number of calls into the office and as a result we have increased staffing in the office. Mrs Hussain, Mrs Whittaker, Mrs Donnelley, Mrs Iqbal will all be pleased to take your queries and if they are not able to resolve issues, will take a message and ensure someone responds in a timely manner.

Lesley Heathcote