



OPAK NEWSLETTER

20th November 2020



A message from the Academy Council

The Academy Council is meeting as usual, albeit on Google Classroom, and it is business as usual in terms of our role of challenging and supporting the leadership of the academy to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children. We would like to thank you as parents and carers for the support that you have given in helping to get the academy back to as normal as it is possible to be at this time. Adapting to the use of on-line learning through the Google Classroom is just the latest challenge that some of you have had to face in order to ensure the continuity of education for your children. The wealth of material that can now be accessed is extensive and should meet any of the future issues that may occur, which is comforting. There are also well developed plans when either the equipment or broadband is not available should a child in that position be sent home.

The preparations for opening the academy back up to all pupils have been extensive as you can see from the Risk Assessment that is on the academy website. This is under constant review to ensure that it meets the health and safety risks posed by Covid as well as the statutory guidance from the Department of Education regarding the safe re-opening of schools. This has significantly increased the Principal's and other senior leaders' workloads because the situation is unpredictable but at the heart of all the decisions that are being made is making things as normal and enjoyable for the children.

It is now clear that the events and activities that are so enjoyed in primary schools during the Christmas period will be different this year. There will be lots of the traditional activities such as parties, Santa visits, crafting activities and Christmas assemblies that will still be taking place but within the framework that the academy is operating in. It is disappointing that some of the other activities that involve you all being able to come into school will not be possible, but we are sure that you will understand and continue to support the staff in the way that you have been doing so far. It's a testament to everyone's support and confidence that our weekly attendance figures are high and this can only be the best for the children.

We look forward to welcoming a new parent governor in due course and hope that you enjoy Christmas, whatever that looks like. We also hope that 2021 is the year when normality returns to all our lives.

Thank you,
Sue Silk (on behalf of the Academy Council)

Flu Jabs

Children from Reception up to year 6 will be receiving their flu jabs on Monday 23rd November.

The nursing team will return on a different date to administer to our year 2 children when they are back in school. We are awaiting confirmation of this date and will let you know as soon as possible.