



January 2021 Newsletter

I find it unbelievable that I am writing this newsletter during yet another lockdown. We are living in the strangest of times and I sincerely hope that everyone is safe, well and coping with the restrictions placed on us all in order to do our bit to bring us out of lockdown as soon as possible.

Re-opening Schools

You will probably be aware by now of the government plans to reopen schools. In his daily briefing on Wednesday 27th January, the Prime Minister stated that he would hope that we could begin reopening schools in some capacity from 8th March. Whilst it is not set in stone, and is dependent on a number of factors, we are encouraged to have a date to work towards. We want nothing more than to have all of the children back in school as soon as we possibly can. I will keep you updated with any further information as we get it.

Attendance

If your child is unwell for any reason and is unable to complete their daily work, please let the school office know and we can inform the teaching staff so they know why any work is not being completed.

Covid-19

We have been asked again to carry out Track & Trace over the half term holiday. If your child is attending school and tests positive during the February half term holiday, please email the school on covidpositive@belgrave.stoke.sch.uk. By doing this you will help us to identify close contacts and inform any families who may be affected.

Please be aware that staff will not be checking or responding to any messages on ClassDojo over the February half term holiday. If you send a message, it will not be picked up until 22nd February when the second half of the Spring term begins. If you have any safeguarding concerns during this period you should contact the Stoke on Trent Safeguarding Team on 01782 235100 if you believe a child is in danger. You can also report any concerns to the police on 101.

Home Learning

I'd like to thank all of the parents who have been encouraging and supporting their child with their remote learning. As I mentioned in a previous Class Dojo update, we know how hard it is to carry out home learning. The circumstances are challenging and we want to reduce the risk of children falling behind as much as possible. This is why anything you can do at home will help. We have carefully planned our remote learning provision to ensure the children, as much as possible, can access their work independently. We know that this is dependent on the age of the children and that it is more difficult with younger children, however, every little bit helps! Thank you to those parents who took the time to offer valuable feedback about our home learning provision.

ClassDojo

Many of you will be aware that ClassDojo is our main platform for communicating important information with you. We still have a significant number of parents who have not signed up to it and so will be missing important information from school. Information and updates are coming regularly and so I would ask ALL parents to make sure you are registered and signed up for ClassDojo. Please contact the school office if you need any help to do this.

Outstanding work on social media

It has been fantastic to see the efforts that the children have been going to with their home learning. There have been some very creative pieces of work going on and we love being able to share them with our school family on social media. Please do send in pictures/ videos so that we can celebrate how wonderful the children are.

If you haven't seen us on social media, you can find us on Facebook by searching for Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy and Twitter @BelgraveAcademy

Finally – A huge thank you to everyone who has taken the time to send well wishes and words of encouragement and thanks to our school staff. As I have said before, the staff really appreciate it and it really makes us smile. We will keep sending regular updates with any new information when we get it. Please stay safe and look after each other.