

Orchard's C of E Academy

Weekly Parent Newsletter

20th November 2020

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Our Christian Value for this Half Term is **Trust**

Dates for the Diary

11th December Christmas Jumper Day

14th December Virtual Christingle

18th December Last school day before Christmas

4th January INSET

5th January Children back to school

15th January Individual School Photos

COVID Symptoms

If your child develops any of the symptoms related to COVID 19 – that is, one or more of:

- a high temperature – this means your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back;
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means your child cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

you must keep them off school for **10 days** from the start of the symptoms. The rest of your household must isolate for **14 days** from the start of the symptoms.

If your child has any other symptoms making them feel unwell, treat these as you would have done normally – if you feel they are fit for school, and please send them in.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Social Distancing

It is critical that everybody observes the following key behaviours:

- **HANDS** - Wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds.
- **FACE** - Wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.
- **SPACE** - Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors).

Social distancing

- To reduce the risk of catching or spreading coronavirus, try to keep at least 2 metres away from people you do not live with. Social distancing is essential to stop the spread of the virus, as it is more likely to spread when people are close together. An infected person can pass on the virus even if they do not have any symptoms, through talking, breathing, coughing or sneezing.

When with people you do not live with, you should also avoid: physical contact; being close and face-to-face; and shouting or singing close to them. You should also avoid crowded areas with lots of people; and touching things that other people have touched.

Where you cannot stay 2 metres apart you should stay more than 1 metre apart, as well as taking extra steps to stay safe. For example:

- wear a face covering: on public transport and in many indoor spaces, you must wear a face covering by law, unless you are exempt;
- move outdoors, where it is safer and there is more space;
- if indoors, make sure rooms are well ventilated by keeping windows and doors open.

You do not need to socially distance from anyone in your household, meaning the people you live with. You also do not need to socially distance from anyone in your legally-permitted support bubble if you are in one,

or someone you're in an established relationship with. If in the early stages of a relationship, you should take particular care to follow the guidance on social distancing.

When providing care to a young child, or person with a disability or health condition who is not in your household or support bubble, it may not always be possible or practicable to maintain social distancing. You should still limit close contact as much as possible when providing these types of care, and take other precautions such as washing hands and opening windows for ventilation.

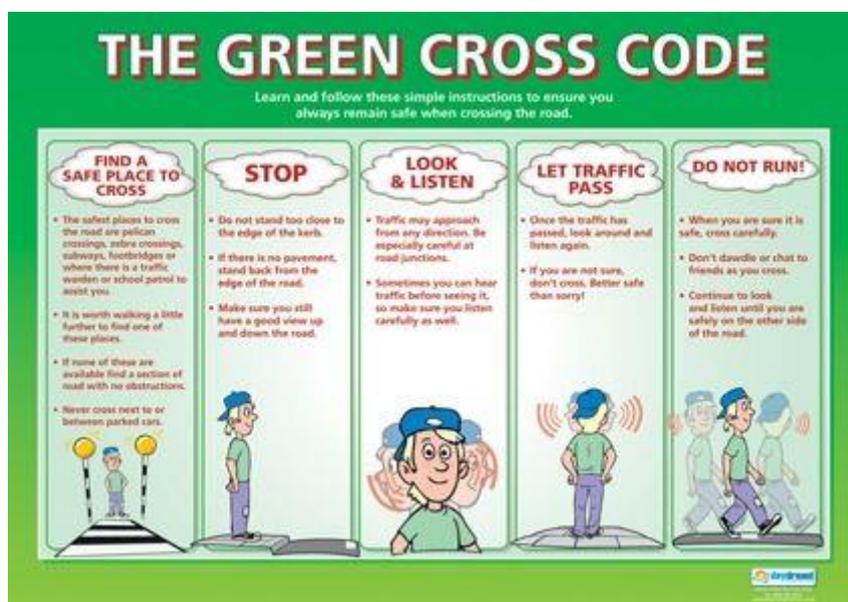
Classes Next Term

Next term, the children will be (for the most part) put back into single year group classes / bubbles. Please keep an eye on your email over the next few weeks for information about your child's class teacher, start time, finish time and gate for next term. Given that COVID 19 will still be with us in January, we will still be staggering the beginning and ending of the school day.

The majority of children will remain with their current class teacher, but even in these cases, that start and end times to the day may change.

Road Safety

We have had a report of some children crossing the road without checking for traffic. Please can we remind you that the roads are often busy near school and it is really important that the green cross code is followed. Please make sure that your child doesn't run out in front of cars that are traveling along the roads.



Stars of the Week

Well done to all the children for their hard work this week. The following children were particularly celebrated for their effort, behaviour and achievement in class.

Early Years – Vasilisa in Acorns; Gabriele in KCrawley; Evelyn in LCodd; Oscar in Peach.

Key Stage 1 – Alexis in CStratton; Taylor in HFletcher; Katalia in DRedmile; Alex in AWojcik; Benas in ZLester.

Key Stage 2 – Mari in VVaitekunaite; Lena in RRouse; Martyna in EBurrows; Oliwier in RHall; Mia in ESmith; TJay in MCarter; Orestas in TJacobs; Darija in SAckah; Oana in AHall; Karina in KEyers; Max in ERedmile.

Attendance

Below is the attendance for each class since last week's Newsletter:

Early Years – KCrawley – 95.7%; LCodd – 95.6%; Peach – 91.1%.

Key Stage 1 – CStratton – 97.4%; HFletcher – 94.3%; DRedmile – 100%; AWojcik – 98.3%; ZLester – 97.7%.

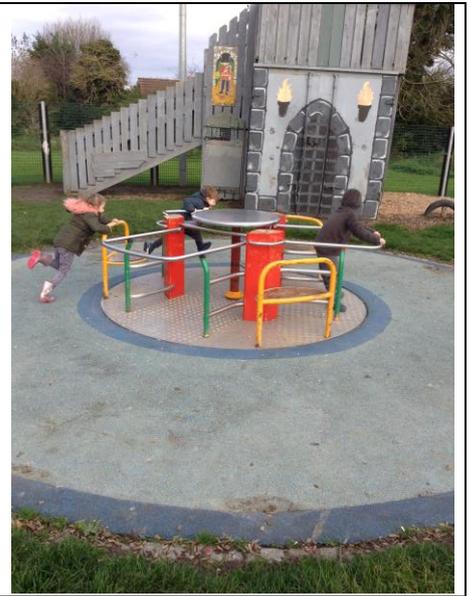
Key Stage 2 – VVaitekunaite – 94.5%; RRouse – 96.6%; EBurrows – 86.6%; RHall – 96.4%; ESmith – 98.6%; MCarter – 96.4%; TJacobs – 98.5%; SAckah – 97.2%; AHall – 95.7%; KEyers – 99.2%; ERedmile – 93.9%.

Well done to Mrs Redmile's class for having the best attendance in school during this time.

Whole school attendance this week is: **96.3%**.

Whole school attendance since the beginning of term is **96.1%**.

Mrs Wojcik's class had their Spinney visit this week because they had the best attendance in school last Half Term. As you can see from these photos, they had a great time.



Outdoor Learning

On Friday, Mr Rouse and Mrs. Newell's class were the first to use our new fire stoves for cooking. They learnt about how to use them safely in small groups, before using fire strikers to get the fire going in the stoves. Some very successful hot dogs were cooked and, of course, eaten! Hot chocolate was also on the menu. Some of the children took theirs into dens they had built earlier.

Mrs. Stratton's class came out for a session based on 'The Tiger Who



Came for Tea.' Mrs. Evers really enjoyed reading the story to them, especially when they joined in, as it is their Talk for Writing book as well. The children made pictures of stripy tigers using natural materials, used the mud play equipment to make all sorts of disgusting things. They also built large constructions using logs and branches as well as the wooden blocks.

Christmas Activities



Keep an eye on the Newsletter for Christmas dates and events. We hope that we will be able to mark this important time of the year, which is something the children look forward to so much, but we know that things aren't going to be the same as normal this year. There will be no nativity, no singing, no church service and no big gatherings, as those are just things which we are not permitted to do.

We will be taking part in Christmas Jumper Day on 11th December to support Save the Children. More information can be found at <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day>

There will be a Christmas Storytime Advent Calendar, and I have also been tasked – this was absolutely not my idea – of coming up with a joke a day throughout December. So look out for Mr Steeden's Christmas Crackers.

On Monday 14th December, the children will be able to watch Virtual Christingle delivered by the Bishop of Ely. You can also watch from home by visiting the Ely

Cathedral YouTube Channel at

www.youtube.com/c/ElyCathedralCambridge

You can also enjoy "Flood the Night with Light" on Sunday 20th December at 6.30pm. Simply light your Christingle(s) and place them in a window that looks out onto the street – you can share the pictures of your house or street "Flooding the Night" on the Ely Cathedral Facebook page 'Ely Cathedral Learning Fun for Families'. (Please be very careful when you light your Christingle – make sure you don't leave naked flames unattended or near any flammable materials such as curtains).

Other Christmas activities to look out for will be Christmas Bingo and a Christmas Quiz – more details to follow.

Worship Focus of the Week

Our worship focus this week was about friends we can trust and who might go that extra mile for us. We heard a story from the New Testament of the Bible which told us about the Miracle in Capernaum and the group of people who took their friend to Jesus and eventually had to lower him through the roof in order to be healed.

And Finally...

Have a good weekend – I notice some lovely Christmas decorations in the estate as I drive home each evening. You have inspired some of our teachers to start decorating their homes too!

Thank you for all the support you provide for the children and our academy!

