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# EVERGREEN SCHOOL

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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**Our Vision: Every child, every day, to thrive and learn**

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome to the first official Evergreen School newsletter! These will be coming out weekly, so please keep an eye out as we have lots of things to share with you in the coming weeks.

It has been wonderful to see all the children and young people returning to school. It's been a long time since we have felt some sense of normality and having a full school across both sites is hugely comforting. Having spent time on both sites, it's been a joy to see such happy and positive children and young people, many of whom have not had regular time in school for 6 months. They really are a credit to you and I would like to thank you for your understanding, support and patience through this turbulent time. I can share with you that at the present time Evergreen School has 266 pupils on roll and 184 members of staff. We also have adverts out for two family support workers (one based at each site) and some TA positions.

I know certain aspects of your children returning to school have been frustrating, with transport being of particular concern. I am sorry if you have experienced challenges with this and I can assure you that we are working with the local authority transport team to try and resolve any issues.

It will of course take some time for things to settle and for everyone to feel comfortable in this 'new normal'. Pupils entering and leaving school via a number of different entrances is proving successful, if you are uncertain about drop off and pick up please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. As always, the health, safety and welfare of all pupils and adults coming to school is paramount and we feel confident we have a robust risk assessment in place to reduce the risk of transmission. Classes are working in class bubbles and the focus across both sites continues to be around regular hand washing and reducing interchange.

As mentioned in my previous letter we continue to make significant steps forward with the Brittain Lane site. There are some pictures in this newsletter of a fully operating sensory garden that I know many of the young people have been exploring this week. The book cafe continues to come along nicely, and we are now in the next phases of installation (please see pictures below). We have also had everything from our large resources order arrive including many new chairs, tables and specific resources for individual classes.

Effective and regular communication between home and school is very important to us and I know there is some information in this letter about ClassDojo which is a fantastic platform to keep you informed of what is happening in school. We are awaiting final verification from ClassDojo so hopefully you can sign up very soon!

Finally, I would like to say a huge congratulations to all the students that completed and passed their accredited courses. I am pleased to inform you we had a 100% pass rate! It's lovely to have such positive news regarding qualifications in the midst of the exam debacle.

As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries or concerns.

Best wishes

Nick

## Dates for your diary

<b>Autumn Term 2020</b>	
<b>Half term</b>	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2020
<b>Term finishes</b>	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
<b>Spring term 2020</b>	
<b>Term begins</b>	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
<b>Half term</b>	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2021 – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
<b>Term finishes</b>	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021
<b>Summer term 2021</b>	
<b>Term begins</b>	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
<b>May bank holiday</b>	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021 (School closed to pupils)
<b>Half term</b>	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
<b>Term finishes</b>	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2021
<b>Staff Training days</b>	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2020
<b>School is closed to pupils</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2021

### Jeans for Genes

We will be marking **Jeans for Genes day next Friday 18th September** by offering pupils and staff the option to wear jeans to school in return for a donation.

**Due to Covid-19, we will not be accepting cash donations on this occasion.**

You can make a donation here:

<https://www.jeansforgenesday.org/donateonline> by selecting 'donating as an individual'.

Monies raised on Jeans for Genes Day fund the work of the charity Genetic Disorders UK and provide grants to organisations for projects that aim to transform the lives of children with genetic disorders.



### School payments

Information will be coming out soon regarding gaining access to Schools Gateway. All payments to school will be paid through this method.

### Class Dojo

We are busy setting up Evergreen School with Class Dojo. Invites will be sent out shortly.

### Drop off / Pick up reminder

A gentle reminder, if you are dropping off or picking up your child/children the staff are not able to have long conversations. If you need to speak to the class teacher they will be happy to phone you.

It would also be really helpful if parent's cars can exit the car park as soon as possible to enable the buses to access the school site safely. Please could you also use the footpaths at both sites and the zebra crossing at Brittain lane.

And whilst waiting outside the school please observe social distancing.

### Respite support for families

If you are interested in respite help to support your child, you can contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to request a social care assessment. They will contact you to assess your family needs and the ways they can support you, including respite care. You can call Warwickshire MASH on **01926 414144**. Lines are open from: Monday to Thursday: 8:30am – 5:30pm, Friday: 8:30am – 5:00pm or email on [mash@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:mash@warwickshire.gov.uk) Respite help can be a positive way to support your child's ongoing development and access to the community, particularly as they get older, enabling them to attend peer activities as other children of their age do. There are lots of families who have accessed these services and benefitted, so please contact them to see if they can support you.

## Work that has been taking place at Brittain Lane Site

### Seagull Class

Over the summer the music room/library on the Brittain Lane site were relocated and the room transformed into a new classroom for Seagull class. These are Year 6 and 7 children, that had all previously attended the Deansway site.

As you can see from the photos it is a lovely classroom and all the children have enjoyed using the new resources. We are especially lucky to have two adjoining rooms, so one has been changed into a quiet sensory space.

Our topic this term is 'Out and about in Warwickshire', and we are starting by learning our way around the new school. We will then explore some of the local area as well as looking at famous places and people who have lived in the area.

The whole class have had a very settled start, with everyone coping fantastically with all the changes.

Stephen



### Sensory Garden



### Book Café under construction





### **If your child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)**

If any pupil at Evergreen School becomes unwell with either a:

- New, continuous cough
- High temperature
- Has loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell

They will be sent home and be advised, that they must:

- Arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus
- Self-isolate for at least 10 days (unless you have received a negative result)
- All other household members will need to isolate for 14 days (if you are confirmed as positive)
- Inform school of the coronavirus test results once received

While your child is awaiting collection, they will:

- Be moved to an isolated room with the window open for ventilation
- Staff supporting your child will be wearing suitable PPE
- When you arrive, we will bring your child out to you.

### **Paediatric and Dietitian Clinics**

At the present time we are still not holding the paediatric or dietitian clinics in school. Both services are still undertaken clinics, however due coronavirus these are now done via telephone appointments. If your child needs an appointment with either their paediatrician or their dietitian they can contact them on the numbers below to request a telephone appointment:

Paediatrics department at Crown Way Clinic – 01926 425449

Dietician Department at Warwick Hospital – 01926 495321 ext. 4258