



White Hall Academy

9th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We received some wonderful news this week when our SENCO, Mrs Pearce, was named the UK's Best Teacher by thortful.com. Parents across the UK were asked by the company to nominate their favourite teacher and Mrs Pearce won the award. Mrs Pearce was also interviewed live on BBC Radio, and we are all extremely proud of her achievement. Well done!

I would like to remind you that on **Monday, 12th October, Key Stage 2** pupils will be having their individual photographs taken in school. All key stage 2 pupils need to come to school in their full school uniform and all P.E lessons will be cancelled on this day. Please remember that we do not have any spare uniform in school and are therefore unable to lend any pupils' items for the photographs.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions we have decided to refund parents/carers any money paid towards the cancelled school trips in the Spring and Summer Terms.

We have received a number of complaints from residents and parents about the illegal parking of cars around the school site. Please refrain from parking across resident's driveways and parking on the zig zag or double yellow lines. Thank you.

Parents/carers of pupils in Year 6 - please remember to apply for your child's Secondary school place before the **31st October 2020**. If you miss this deadline you run the very real risk of missing out on your preferred choice of school, and any appeal would be severely weakened. You need to apply online at <https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>

In the event of children isolating from home.

From September the government made it law that all children must receive an education at home in the event of a school or bubble closure.

We would like to take a moment to explain what home learning will look like, should the children be unable to attend school.

- We recently sent home a letter asking if children have access to the Internet at home – the majority of children do and will receive their education in this way. For those that do not their learning will be delivered to them with daily check ins.
- We have asked all staff, children, parents and carers to sign up to ClassDojo – this is a secure platform where the remote learning will be hosted and links to timetables, lessons, video calls and learning activities will be; parents and children will also be able to contact staff through this portal directly for support with education. The adults from the class will be online during school hours.

Heads of Academy Team

Head of Academy Mr Gavin Bradley • **Executive Head Teacher** Mr Andrew Smith • **Deputy Head Teacher** Mrs Ellie Eames

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- When children are sent home they will take with them a starter pack; this includes an explanation letter from the class teacher, a maths book, an English book and a pencil (These have been collated in advance so will have already been quarantined).
- Every day between 9am and 9.30am the children need to log in to ClassDojo where there will either be a link to a Zoom Call or a morning activity post. We will use this for registration purposes – if any child is unwell and unable to complete their learning for the day we ask that the parent or carer phones the office in line with our normal pupil absence procedures.
- Included within the class letter is the timetable for the day – the learning will be in ClassDojo.
- The children will complete their learning in the books sent home or directly in their portfolios on ClassDojo.
- The end of the remote learning school day will be 2.30pm, any work needs to be uploaded to ClassDojo by 2.30pm.
- When the children return to school they need to bring with them the completed learning in the Zippy wallets provided.

The Remote Learning Policy is available on the School Website for further information. Please contact Mrs Eames via the school email address with any questions.

I hope you all have lovely weekend.

Regards

Mr.G.Bradley

Headteacher

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