



Coaley Church of England Academy

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Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all I'd like to warmly welcome you all back to school. As you can imagine, it's been a bit of a challenge to get all the things in place and ready to safely have all the children back in school, learning loads and having fun. I apologise if some of the guidance I sent out last week has since changed as the latest Government guidance came out quite late on Friday, and after I sent my letter last week. However, you have all seem to have adapted to our new situation very well so thank you.

We've already tweaked a few things as we learn lessons each day, especially with regards to the staggered start and finish times. For example, if you are waiting for the Starlings, please can you come into the fenced area at the front of the school to prevent blocking the pavement. Also, we realised an issue with the two classes finishing at the same time as there are some siblings in both classes. We are now asking for parents who have children in Starlings and another class to come to the other classroom at pick up as there is more space to socially distance, and we will make sure both your children are available to be collected. The updated Risk Assessment will be on the school website from Monday. Any problems with pick-ups or drop-offs, please see your class teacher or myself and we will solve any issues you have.

We have got lots of exciting things planned for the year and I will be sending out a summary of the plans soon, once I have shared this with the governors. Last year was quite extraordinary in lots of ways for us at Coaley but we managed to do some fantastic things. Here is what we have achieved from the last action plan: the playground is now ready for our grand launch next Friday (more news about that early next week); the library is now in place; the new logo is now a part of the Coaley family. We have also grown to three classes and have a waiting list in some year groups. It was a great year and this year will be equally good.

We are also updating our behaviour systems at school and are introducing dojo points! This is an easy, exciting way of sharing with you your child's successes at school and for you to communicate with your child's teacher about small issues and to ask simple questions. More information will go out about this and some of you might have received information from your child's class teachers. This should all be sorted early next week for all classes. I will send out more details about this later this term.

We will be discussing clubs and how we can operate them this term given the current COVID guidance. As you'd expect, it's not simple as we have to maintain social distancing and keep children in their 'bubbles' as much as we can. I will let you know more about this as soon as I can.

As always, if there's anything you want to discuss, we are always here to help and I am in school every day.

Richard Lucas
Executive Headteacher

Our new library

It is so exciting! All the weeks of planning have resulted in the most amazing library. It's better than we could have hoped for. We can't give enough thanks to the School House Trust for donating all the money to build the new structure. The children are really excited about using it.



Thank you!

Remember all that stormy weather? We do because Mrs Astley had a surprise one day when popping into school. One of our trees had come down and was laying on our brand new fence! What was she to do? Thankfully Mr Taylor came to the rescue and in a flash, the tree was cut up and the school made safe again. The best part is Forest School now have some really cool logs to use in their lessons. Thank you so much Mr Taylor for saving the day.

Forest school and PE

PE and forest school will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons this term. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils will receive PE and Forest School on a Tuesday afternoon and Year 3,4,5 and 6 on a Thursday afternoon. Children need to come to school on their day in PE kit and bring clothes that can be added to this for forest school. For example, adding a hoodie or a pair of jogging bottoms to their existing kit. Please consider the weather. As we will be keeping the children in their bubbles we intend to use the outdoor space as much as possible and therefore we would appreciate if the children could bring a pair of wellies or trainers (named) to leave in school so they are available to change into when needed.

Long Term Learning Plan

The long term learning plans for Robins, Starlings and Owls are now available to view on our website in the key information section. Please take a look at what exciting learning will be taking place from September.

Uniform

Our lovely new uniforms are now available to purchase. Please come into the office for a form to place an order, alternatively orders can be made directly online with www.ahyde.co.uk although there is a delivery charge incurred with an online order.

C19 Mobile Testing Units

As you may already know there are now a number of Mobile Testing Units available across the county. The Mobile Testing Unit, previously at Oxstalls Tennis Centre in Gloucester, is now available at other locations across the county. The mobile unit has meant hundreds more tests are available each day it is operating.

Those who do have symptoms can get tested at the Mobile Testing Units and here are the testing locations below: Information of opening times can be found at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

Stow

Stow Rugby Football Club, Oddington Road, Stow, GL54 1JJ

Stroud

Stratford Park Leisure Centre, Stratford Road, Stroud, GL5 4AH

Gloucester

Hempsted Meadows, David Hook Way, Gloucester, GL2 5LE

Certificates

There are no values certificates this week. We wanted to let the children settle back into school. We are really proud of how they have all coped this week and they all deserve an awards for that. Well done all and welcome back to school. We've missed you!

WE ARE COALEY ~ We Believe

We Respect

We Belong