



**STIVICHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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SUPPORTING  
CONNECTING  
INFLUENCING



Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

A reminder that we break up today and school will resume on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**, children learning remotely will resume their SeeSaw activities, and those children with vulnerable or key worker places will return to school with the same start and finish times.

As, like you, we are still awaiting a further update on the full reopening of school, we will be following the announcements over the next week or so with the view of communicating any updates with parent as soon as we are able to.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring the safety of everyone by not sending your child into school if they have not been feeling well this week. Please read the attached Local Authority letter regarding the current COVID19 situation in Coventry which details lateral flow testing for children from the age of 2, current statistics for the city as well as links to current guidelines.

#### Attendance and Contact Tracing over the February half-term break

As stated in last week's newsletter, in order to keep your family and relatives safe during the break, the school will continue to contact any close contacts resulting from positive cases reported where symptoms have developed within 48 hours of the last attendance in school. The answerphone service will be monitored between the hours of **9.00 am – 11.00 am** each day for the first four days after school finishes this Friday. If you need to report a positive test result for a pupil of Stivichall Primary, please call the school number: 024 76419555 select option 2 and provide the following information:

- Name of child
- Date pupil last attended school
- Date of onset of coronavirus symptoms
- Date of test
- Date the positive test result was received
- Contact number

All the above information will be used to carry out a rapid risk assessment and identify if any pupils and/or staff need to isolate. Should this be the case, you will be contacted by both email and text via ParentMail. We would be grateful if you could be mindful that you may receive a notification from school during this time and thank you for your cooperation.

If you or your child are asked to self-isolate by NHS track and trace or a child or household member tests positive after Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February, we do not need to be notified of absence until the first day of the new term.

#### Governing Body and Parent Governor Vacancy

Due to his relocation to Yorkshire, Mr James Malcolm has stepped down as a governor at Stivichall School. James has been a governor for almost 2 1/2 years and we thank him for his contribution and commitment during this time. We are delighted to welcome Mr Zaid Rehman, a past parent, as the school's new co-opted governor and Mr Mike Ballinger into the role of Chair of Governors.

As Mr Derek Gardiner has now stepped down from his role as parent governor, there is now a vacancy for a parent governor. Interested parents should read the attached letter for guidance on the role of governor and how to stand for election as a parent governor or nominate another parent. We thank Derek for the exceptional support and guidance he has provided to the school during his time as both parent governor and particularly as Chair of Governors.

#### Remote Learning Survey

After the first COVID19 related school closures of last year, we were able to use your feedback given in conversations, parents' evenings and emails to inform our planning through the autumn term for remote learning going forward. Following the first part of this 2021 closure and after introducing some new elements to our remote learning offer, we would like to take the opportunity to gather your opinions on what has worked well and what challenges you and your child(ren) have experienced. We will use this feedback in our continued efforts to do our best in meeting the needs of the children of Stivichall.

Yesterday, a notification was sent to your 'forms' section of your ParentMail account for you to complete the survey. Thank you to those parents who have already completed and submitted their form. If you haven't already had chance to take a look at the survey then please log on to your account and do so. Thank you for your support.

### Safer Internet Week

This week in school and at home, pupils have been busy taking part in Safer Internet Day 2021. As part of the work completed, the children were given the chance to enter a competition to win some Lego Education resources for the school. We are looking forward to judging the entries with our Online Safety Committee over the next few weeks. As part of Safer Internet Day, we would like to draw your attention to the following web link:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2021/safer-internet-day-2021-top-tips>

This link is also available on our twitter feed.

Please encourage your child to remember all of their e-safety learning from school to keep themselves safe online and monitor your child's use of online content at home.

Thanks for your support!

Mr J Daniel

Online Safety Lead

### CBBC YouTube Channel

The following [CBBC YouTube Channel](#) have had an exciting revamp and is full of entertainment for half term and outside of home-schooling hours during lockdown.

Videos are being uploaded daily that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. We have all the top CBBC brands on here, with a wide range of genres from factual shows, news, dramas, comedy to entertainment. Programmes like Horrible Histories, Blue Peter, Newsround, The Next Step, Saturday Mash-Up, Operation Ouch, the Playlist, the Dumping Ground, Heirs of the Night and Jamie Johnson. They are also welcoming back Dani Harmer in the brilliant new programme My Mum Tracy Beaker.

If you are interested in this, then please subscribe to [www.youtube.com/cbbc](http://www.youtube.com/cbbc)

### Mark Wood, Explorer

Class 56M, 6P and 6S were delighted to have a live online session with the explorer, Mark Wood, yesterday. Mark is a former pupil of Stivichall Primary and usually visits us each year to talk about his expeditions, including his solo back-to-back expeditions to the South and North Poles. He spoke to the children about his trips up Mount Everest and also his upcoming expedition - a record breaking attempt - to walk solo for 100 days across the Arctic Circle to highlight awareness of climate change. The children asked some thoughtful questions and thoroughly enjoyed seeing him. We are grateful to Mark for taking the time to speak to them and inspiring them with his messages of resilience and his spirit of adventure.

Further information about Mark's explorations can be found at <http://www.markwoodexplorer.com/>

### Mental Health and Wellbeing Enhanced Project with PMHT

We had good feedback from the recent parent workshops led by Annie from the Primary Mental Health Team, on introducing mental health and wellbeing for children. There are still a few places left on the subsequent, second session which will be about strategies to help reduce anxiety in children. It is being held on Zoom on Thursday 18th March 11-11:45am. Please contact the school office if you would like to take up this opportunity. Annie will also be leading special Zoom call lessons based on the Five Ways to Wellbeing for classes in Key Stage 2 after half term. The lessons are aimed at helping children learn all about how to look after their own mental health and wellbeing, particularly during this period. More information on the Five Ways to Well Being for everyone can be found [here](#).

### Mental Health and Wellbeing Books gifted to school

Some wonderful bundles of books have been kindly donated to the children and staff of Stivichall Primary School. These were donated by The Eyetech Team on Kenpas Highway, Adam and Adrian @Hemmwood and TST Martial Arts @ Coundon Social Club. These Usborne books, which focus on Mental Health and Wellbeing were facilitated by one of our parent's, Trish Edyn-Wood from Magic Pages Books. On behalf of our School, we are incredibly grateful to each of the companies and of course Trish for organising these wonderful gifts. We will enjoy sharing them with the children.

### Free help with SPAG terminology!

Dandelion Learning, a company we have worked with before at Stivichall, is running online sessions for parents to help with online learning. At the moment, their focus is on basic grammatical terminology. This is something that within our parent workshops we have the most queries about as the children are now expected to use the correct terminology in their work. It is a tricky area of the curriculum to get to grips with, so we wanted to signpost this to you as parents in case it is something you would find useful and beneficial whilst your children are working from home.

The sessions run for 45 minute and are free for all parents who have a child at primary school. The sessions explore:

- Grammatical terminology. Consolidate your understanding of word classes including nouns, verbs, adjectives, determiners, conjunctions, pronouns and adverbs.
- Ways to support your child at home with their understanding of grammar.

Places need to be booked and can be done so through the Dandelion website as detailed below:

[www.dandelionlearning.co.uk/helping-parents-with-home-learning-getting-to-grips-with-grammar](http://www.dandelionlearning.co.uk/helping-parents-with-home-learning-getting-to-grips-with-grammar)

This link will also be available on Twitter.

#### Artsmark Silver Award

I am delighted to announce that our school has been awarded a prestigious Artsmark Silver Award - the creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England. This award recognises and celebrates our passion and commitment to high-quality arts and cultural education, which is central to our broad and balanced curriculum. We look forward to continuing to expand and develop our provision, in the next phase of our Artsmark journey.

#### School Dinners

A reminder that if your child is due to attend school w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> February and wishes to have a school dinner then please remember to book their meals via your ParentPay account no later than midnight on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February at the latest.

#### Dol-y-Moch and PGL Residentials

Unfortunately, the Year 6 residential trip to the Plas-Dol-y-Moch centre in North Wales is unable to go ahead this academic year - staff at school and at the outdoor centre itself empathise with the year 6 who will no doubt be disappointed about this news. Since the centre is owned by Coventry Local Authority, the school will not be invoiced and information about refunds has gone out to Year 6 parents in a letter this week.

PGL Caythorpe are hoping to re-open this academic year, depending on Government restrictions. The Year 5 residential (initially planned for September 2020) was moved last June to 5th - 7th May 2021. PGL has said that they will contact us next half term once they have further information to share, including any details regarding deposits/payments that have already been sent to PGL.

#### Parking and taking Photographs

It is disappointing that despite my communication sent out earlier this week about the inconsiderate and dangerous parking, by a small minority of our key worker/vulnerable children parents, that the offences still keep happening. I witnessed one such incident myself with a parent pulling up at the end of the drive and blocking the road. This is clearly not acceptable. Our PCSO's have been informed and will be monitoring the situation. Anyone can report a parking offence by using either of the links below and I would encourage you to do so:

<https://west-midlands.police.uk/your-options/road-or-pavement-obstruction#>

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/reportaparkingproblem>

May I kindly remind parents that if you do take photographs of any cars that you deem to be illegally or irresponsibly parked, make sure that no images of children are included in the picture.

#### WINDOW WANDERLAND IS COMING TO YOUR STREET 20 FEB – 19 MAR 2021

During February and throughout March 2021, streets across Coventry and Warwickshire have been and will continue to light up their front windows and gardens and become beautiful walking trails

Window Wanderland can be enjoyed by all ages and abilities, so everyone on your street can get involved. Coventry are already working with amazing people across the city who are determined to get their local communities involved.

They are supporting 11 areas to take part. [Find out which area you're in](#) and register your window display on the map by [clicking the yellow button on this page](#) that names your area.

Full details - including what areas of Coventry are registered, how you can take part, FAQ's - can be found here: <https://coventry2021.co.uk/get-involved/window-wanderland/>

Have a relaxing half-term break.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs K Ferguson**

Mrs K Ferguson  
Head Teacher

parle2208/yg