



STIVICHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Artsmark
Silver Award
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Council England



10th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

A very warm welcome back! I hope that you have all had a relaxing summer and filled the time making wonderful memories.

The children have started the new academic year with enthusiasm and settled in well to their new classroom surroundings with their new teachers. Our new reception children have also visited school this week for a 'stay and play' session as well as attending for a half-day session today. We look forward to them all starting full time on Monday.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and understanding as we return to school with some of our Covid restrictions still in place, including the staggered drop off and pick up. This cautious approach is recommended and supported by the local authority. Our school COVID risk assessment is available to view on the school website as well as the Parent / Carer Covid handbook that has already been shared with parents. However, below are a few of the measures that will remain in place until further notice. Our next full review is planned for the end of September and will take into account recommendations made by the local authority and based on city-wide and localised COVID-19 case numbers. As ever, we will update you as anything changes.

Start and End of the Day

- Reception timings: 8.45am – 2.45pm
- Pupils with surnames beginning A-Go **Start 9.00 and finish 3.00pm**
- Pupils with surnames beginning Gr-M **Start 9.10 and finish 3.10pm**
- Pupils with surnames beginning N-Z **Start 9.15 and finish 3.15pm**
- Children may be 'dropped off' at the Coat of Arms Bridge Gate if parents feel they are sensible and old enough to make their way to their correct entry to the building. At pick up however, unless parents have informed school that their child can walk home on their own (only in Y5 and Y6), the adult picking them up must come onto the school site. There will always be a member of staff on both gates.
- The one-way system remains in place.
- Cloakrooms still remain out of use so bags sent into school must be kept to a minimum.

We apologise that we have been unable to send out the 'permission to collect children from school' form via ParentMail this week. This is because of technical issues we are experiencing with our systems currently. We still hold on file permissions that were given for last year and will refer to these if there are any queries. However, please do telephone the school on the day if someone different will be collecting your child so that our safeguarding procedures can be followed.

Stivichall Acorns: A reminder that Stivichall Acorns Wraparound before and after school is open from 7.50 am in the morning if you do need to use this provision.

Seesaw

When up and running, Seesaw will continue to be used to:

- share occasional messages from class teachers
- set homework
- share learning to children who are self-isolating at home due to testing positive, but are well enough to continue with their school work

Children's Seesaw accounts are still waiting to be 'rolled-up' to their new classes due to our ongoing technical issues. Once this is complete new login details will be generated for each child. Class teachers will be giving each child their newly printed sign in 'Code' sheet (which includes the QR code) as soon as readily available. Please ensure that your child uses this to login and keeps it safe.

Mobile Phones

Children in Year 5 or 6 for whom we have received permission from parents to walk home without parents are still able to bring a mobile phone in to school, but it can no longer be kept in the locked cabinet in the school office. Instead, any phone brought to school must be handed to their class teacher to store in their cupboard. School accepts no liability for any damage, loss or theft of any phone. All phones must be switched off whilst they are on the school site.

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week was 99%. This reflects the strong commitment of you as parents and carers to help get children back to school with all the benefits for their learning and development that this brings.

Contact Tracing and Isolation: As you are aware, the isolation rules for those that have come into contact with a positive case have now been revised. Children who are identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case are no longer required to isolate, but instead are asked to take a full PCR test. There is no longer a requirement to isolate whilst awaiting the results. Unless your child is symptomatic (if they are, they should stay at home), you need to send your child in as normal, even whilst you await test results. Please note that this is very different to the national guidance shared last academic year. For further information please follow this link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

School have been advised to code any children who do not attend school whilst waiting for a PCR result as unauthorised. The exception to this rule is if they have COVID symptoms, they test positive or are unwell in any other way.

School will assist NHS Test and Trace and Public Health England in identifying close contacts when asked to do so. We will not be required to send children and/or classes home if we receive confirmation of a positive case in school via parents. Instead, parents will receive a letter informing you of any positive cases, which includes a recommendation to book a PCR test (again you do not need to isolate whilst awaiting the result as long as your child does not display any symptoms).

Twice weekly lateral flow testing is still recommended and a list of test centres can be found [here](#).

Reporting child absence: May I kindly remind you that all absences must be reported to school by 9.30 am on the first morning of absence. Parents should call the school number and select option 1 to report a child absence. This service is available 24 hours a day. Please remember to give a brief description of the reason for the absence noting that 'unwell' is not sufficient and causes extra work for the office staff in following up any such messages.

PE

Children must come into school on their PE day/s in their school PE kit which must be suitable for the weather. They can wear jogging bottoms over shorts if for example they have gymnastics or dance and it is a cold day. If they are doing outdoor PE, then they will need school shoes to change into to avoid mud being spread around the school. If children have pumps instead of trainers, these may not be supportive enough for a full day's wear and particularly for lunchtimes, therefore school shoes may be sent in to change into. Any spare shoes brought in must be in a small carrier bag that can fit neatly into the child's individual tray. House colour PE hoodies are allowed, or alternatively, school jumpers/cardigans can be worn over the top to keep warm but no other hoodies or jumpers please. Children have been informed what day their PE lessons take place. If children have an extra-curricular activity requiring a change of clothes, they will need to bring their kit with them to change in school. All items of clothing must be clearly named.

Communication

Our main method of communication between school and home for letters/forms/correspondence will predominantly be via your ParentMail account so it is imperative that you check your emails and messages regularly. Unfortunately, we have been experiencing some technical issues this week with this system and have been unable to send information out using this method and we apologise for this. We are working hard to rectify this and hope to be back up and running efficiently again next week. Please remember to inform the school office of any contact changes including address, mobile numbers or email addresses. Thank you for your cooperation.

Important Dates next week:

- Monday 13th September - Reception children start full time
- Wednesday 15th September - PTA AGM at 7 pm

Celebration News:

A number of our staff were able to finally celebrate their weddings over the summer break.

- Miss Hallas will now be known as Mrs Lee
- Miss Sewter will now be known as Mrs Gould.
- Miss Aujla will now be known as Mrs Bal.

We hope they enjoyed a wonderful day and wish them all every happiness for the future.

School Meals

A reminder that meals need to be chosen and ordered by midnight on the Thursday prior to the week they are to be taken. Parents will need to log on to their ParentPay account, select view menu and choices, then choose the meal items for each day their child will need a meal prepared in school and then confirm bookings. When you confirm your booking, any payment due to cover these meals must be paid within 2 hours. Failure to do so will result in meal bookings being cancelled. It is advisable for parents to keep their account in credit at all times.

Please note, school will no longer be responsible for booking school lunches for your child unless in very exceptional circumstances. Children who are entitled to universal free school meals (Reception, Year 1 and 2) or benefit-related free school meals, will still need to order their child's lunch in the same way as above. When you start to add items to order, a total will be created but once you click on confirm this will revert to £0. ParentPay will automatically be set to recognise when a child is entitled to free school meals. Parents of reception children will receive their ParentPay account login details next week in plenty of time to order any school lunches.

School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme for Reception, Year 1 and 2

The School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme started again this week. Under the scheme, children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 will be entitled to receive a free piece of fruit each school day. If you do not wish your child to participate in the scheme, please send in their own piece of fruit so that they can join in with the other children.

Music Lessons

Music lessons will resume next week and all requests have been met, unless you have been told otherwise. Please note that keyboard is not an option for children in Year 2 so, unfortunately, these children will have to wait another year.

The timetable is as follows:

- Drums - Monday
- Strings - Tuesday
- Guitars - Tuesdays and Fridays
- Piano/Keyboard - Wednesdays and Fridays
- Woodwind - Thursdays
- Brass - Fridays

The children who will have their guitar or piano lesson on Fridays, will be told in advance. Please make sure that any instruments are clearly labelled with your child's name, new starters will be allocated their instrument in their first lesson, and children will need to remember to bring in their books. New practice diaries will be given to them.

The String Club for Year 4 will be after school on Tuesdays (3:15 - 3:55). We would ask parents to collect the children promptly at 4 pm.

Brass band and orchestra will both take part during the lunchtime.

Thank you for all the support you give the children with their practising at home and we look forward to seeing many of them perform throughout the year.

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

This process is now open. Please visit www.coventry.gov.uk/schooladmissions and follow the instructions on how to apply. Your child will bring a leaflet home today with further information. Please note the closing date for applications is **31st October 2021**.

Rising 5 Admissions for September 2022

Applications are now open for any children due to start school in September 2022 (date of birth between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018). Please visit www.coventry.gov.uk/schooladmissions and follow the instructions on how to apply. **Applications must be made by 15th January 2022.**

Forms for completion

Today, children will bring home a yellow coloured School Journey disclaimer form for 2020-21 for local visits within a 20 mile radius of Coventry. Parents will always be notified of any trips or visits. Please complete both sides, remembering to sign it and return it to school **by Monday 13th September.**

Extra-curricular Activities

Clubs are due to start over the next week or two. As a result of ongoing technical issues with our ParentMail roll up of moving children up to their new classes, we have not been able to send the forms out via this method and have had to revert back to sending hard copies out in the interim to enable the clubs to get started. We apologise for this and we hope to have it rectified as soon as possible.

Below is a timetable of clubs that will be running:

Day	Name	Year Group	Provider	When
Mon	Gymnastics	Year 3 - 4	Flyte Gymnastics	Lunchtime
	Yoga Club		Bhandu Panda	After school

Tues	Badminton	Year 5 & 6	Jordan - Kits Academy	Afterschool
	Table Tennis	KS1 and KS2	Jordan - Kits Academy	Lunchtime
	School Band		Ed O'Hara	Lunchtime tbc
	Gardening	Years 4 to 6	Mrs Cribdon/Mrs Watson-Nash	After school
	String Club	Year 4	Coventry Music	After school
	Taekwondo	All year groups	Neil Guest	5 – 6 pm

Weds	Tennis	Year 2	Lynda Flynn	Lunchtime
	Choir	Year 5 & 6	Ms Wright/Mrs Moffatt/Mrs Sedgebear	Lunchtime
	SBiTC	Year 3 to 6	SBiTC	After school
	Dance	All year groups	Leivers Dance	After school

Thurs	Gymnastics	Year 2	Flyte Gymnastics	Lunchtime
	Orchestra	Years 5 & 6	Jude Rees	Lunchtime
	Ricky's Dance	Year 3 and 4	Ricky Brown	After school

Fri	Gymnastics	Years 1 & class 1/2M	Flyte Gymnastics	Lunchtime
	Brass Band	Year 6	Coventry Music	Lunchtime
	Girls Football	Year 6	DF Sport Coaching	After school
	Computing Club	OSCOM & Digital Leaders	J. Daniel/J. Wright	After school

Flyte Gymnastics: There are a few spaces left for Year 1 gymnastics on Fridays. Please contact Flyte Gymnastics direct to book.

Punjabi Lessons

Please contact the school office by email if your child is interested in attending Punjabi classes. Mrs Bains is looking at recommencing lessons at Stivichall if demand allows. This will be open to children in Years 1 to 6 if groupings prove sufficient. You can contact Mrs Bains direct on: 07886 001070.

We will continue to inform parents of any new clubs that are arranged throughout the academic year.

PTA News

Welcome back and welcome to all new parents and children of Stivichall Primary school! We hope that you have all had a safe summer and looking forward to 2021/2022

We would also like to take the opportunity to welcome all new Reception children and families, we hope that you have had a good week and are putting your PTA gifted book bags to good use.

Follow us on our Facebook page to keep up to date with the latest news @ptastivichall

- **Stivichall PTA Annual General Meeting**
- **Wednesday 15th September @ 7.00pm Staff Room**

Do you want to be have an opportunity to be involved in the PTA and help decide how the funds are spent and raised?

Would you like to have a better understanding of our parent relations with the school?

Maybe you would like to meet some new people and have your children help with events?

Or you just want to know more! At the AGM we mostly review the previous academic year and vote in new board members and committee members. It's not as scary as it sounds! It largely means that you have an opportunity to vote and discuss your thoughts when we receive school funding requests. You can offer as much or as little time as you like, whenever you like. Come along to find out more.

Drop us a message on Facebook or email ptastivichall@gmail.com for more information.

Remember, without parents actively joining and supporting the PTA, many fun and exciting activities that are an important part of Stivichall would not be able to run. This would include our Christmas Fayre which we very much look forward to.

Wishing you a safe and relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Ferguson

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Head Teacher

parle2292/yg

