



**The Victory Primary School**

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Mr J Hartley

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## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

It was nice to see everyone coming back to school with a smile on their face this morning. We put some photographs on our Facebook page.

Thank you to everyone for making a special effort to be on time this morning. The teachers really appreciate it and I know that it makes a difference to the children's learning. This term we are going to be focusing hard on attendance and punctuality. Finally, thank you for your kind comments about the fencing. It does look much smarter. Many thanks to the site staff and the contractors who put in a real shift to get it done on time.

Jim Hartley - Headteacher

### Covid update

I wrote to parents and carers last week to outline our new health and safety systems relating to Covid. The new risk assessment is now on the school website. We are in the process of writing a contingency plan which will detail the process that we should undertake should there be a Covid outbreak at school.

If you have any questions, please email us on

[admin1@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:admin1@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk)

On Monday we briefed the children about the hygiene and cleanliness routines that we expect them to follow. As you would expect, this includes regular and rigorous hand washing. Here is a reminder of what you can do to help stop the spread of the virus:

**If your child has Covid Symptoms, keep them at home and arrange a PCR test.**

If the test is positive, the DFE will instruct your child to isolate.

If the test is negative, your child can return to school when they feel better.

If a member of your household tests positive, you will be contacted by trace and trace. They will inform you of what to do. It is likely that they will ask all other household members to take a PCR test.

Children should come to school unless they are unwell, have Covid symptoms or have been instructed by the DFE to isolate. You should not keep your child at home if you think you may have come into close contact with someone who has covid, unless you have been instructed to do so by the DFE. Please refrain from sending your child in to school with belongings such as toys and pencil cases.



## Term Dates

6<sup>th</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> December

Half Term – 25<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Inset Days –

1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## Routines

A lot of the things that you need to know as parents are available on the school website. The prospectus is particularly useful although we are in the process of updating it because of the many changes that have been made since the Covid outbreak.

Once the children and staff have settled in, we will arrange a meeting so parents can meet the teacher.



## Short Bites

### Tuck Shop

The tuck shop for years 3-6 will open next week. More information will follow.

### After School Clubs

After school clubs will start on the week of 20<sup>th</sup> September. The first clubs will be y5/6 dance which will take place on Mondays and y5/6 boys' football which will take place on Tuesdays. More on this will follow.

### Nuts

We have children in school that are allergic to nuts. They could become severely ill should they be exposed to them. Please can parents/carers avoid including any nuts, including peanuts, peanut butter, to children's packed lunches.

### School Gates

The numbers of pupils at Castle View Academy have increased this year as the school has become more popular. This means that this area of Allaway Avenue is likely to become even more busy. The leaders at CV are aware of the problems that this can bring to parents who have to share the pavements. As a result, they will be patrolling the pavements at the end of the school day whenever they can. Please note that the pavements in front of the school are also a designated cycle path, and so I would ask you to take care on the pavements and find a place to chat that doesn't block them. Thank you

### P.E

Until further notice we are asking for children to come into school dressed for PE on the days that they do PE. They will stay in their kit all day. The reasons for this are to save time and to reduce instances of lost kit. These are the days that your child should come dressed for PE:  
Reception-Tuesday  
RF1 - Wednesday  
Rf2 - Tuesday and Thursday  
Y1 - Monday and Friday  
Y2 - Tuesday and Thursday  
Y3 - Monday and Tuesday  
Y4 - Monday and Thursday  
Y5 - Wednesday and Friday  
Y6 - Wednesday and Friday



### Parking, Traffic and safety

This school is no more or less busy than others in the area at drop off and pick up time and it's a lot better than many in the city. However I know that parents find it difficult when they can't find a place. Unfortunately it is not possible to park in the car park at the front of the school because it is too busy particularly with the minibuses that arrive at that time of day and the number of children who use a wheelchair that we have.

At the moment we are using a chain to block off the entry to the carpark at key times of the day. Whilst a limited number of parents have been given permission to come in to the car park, I am afraid that some others who have not been given permission are removing the chain to enter. This is potentially causing a danger to the children. We are now looking to purchase a more robust solution to this problem which is a shame because we would rather spend the money on something educational.

There is however some brighter news on the horizon. The Local Authority are exploring the idea of creating some additional parking in the area. More about that as things develop.



### Volunteers

**Volunteers** - Thank you to those parents who volunteered to come into school to read or help organize the library. We will be in touch within the week

