

## No 1 Multi Academy Trust for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2019 AND NO 3 IN 2018

## Top 10 National Pupil Progress

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2018 AND 2019



18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Well, what an exciting end to a very busy half term!! Sincerest apologies for the late notice about closure this morning. We were really hoping to remain open but staff were gradually being caught in more and more dangerous driving conditions trying to get to school (some of us live quite a way out of Newton Abbott) and by 8am it became clear that we would not be able to staff the school safely. We hope that you can stay safe today as 'Storm Eunice' approaches. Teachers have shared links to remote learning on Google Classrooms to keep children busy.

As we move into the new world of 'living with COVID' I thought it important to remind us all of the ways that we ensure a productive and calm learning environment and really prepare our children for the next stage in their school careers.

### Uniform

Uniform should be black trousers, skirt or shorts with a white polo shirt and school jumper. Shoes should be black in colour and of smart appearance.

On PE days pupils may wear school PE kit. When cold it is absolutely fine for them to wear tracksuit bottoms or leggings and a sweatshirt for warmth.

We will continue to keep rooms well ventilated and monitor air quality. This may mean that classrooms can feel a little chilly so we advise children to wear an extra layer to keep warm. Coats must be brought to school during winter months so that children are able to enjoy the outside areas and remain warm.

### Reading

It is widely recognised that supporting children to become capable and engaged readers plays an important role in their future success. Reading empowers; it facilitates education and employment, and it enriches one's personal life and growth.

Our biggest focus this year is on reading, and we are working closely with our Trust phonics and reading for pleasure specialist Mrs Cooke as well as our Trust English Lead Miss Watson to ensure best practice in the teaching of phonics and whole class reading. Mrs Armstrong our expert Reading Leader TA and Miss Rippon our amazing Reading for Pleasure TA are also working with all staff and children each day to support the development of reading skills and to find ways to engage and inspire children to read and share stories.

As parents and carers, the most powerful thing you can do at home is to encourage your child to read every day. Try to explore a range of genres to help your child to find those books they just cannot put down!

We are very excited to let you all know that we have had our brand-new library designed and are hoping our very own 'Book Nook' will be ready for official opening after the Easter holidays! We



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# TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE



have worked hard to design a space that is warm, comfortable, and inviting and are very excited to share this with you all when it is complete.

### **Virtual Parent Consultations**

Parent Consultations are taking place on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March between 3.30 - 6.00pm.**

Unfortunately, as much as we would like to, we will not be conducting face-to-face appointments for these meeting. Whilst 'living with COVID' is the new directive we must also ensure we keep staff and families safe and free from illness where possible.

Your child's class teacher will be using Google Classroom to hold virtual meetings with both you and your child(ren). It is important that we are able to discuss your child's progress with you, to celebrate their achievements so far and to discuss next steps. You will soon be able to book a **10 minute appointment** with the class teacher through the [Edu Spot](#) booking system. If you experience any difficulties using this system then please speak to Mrs. Webber in the school office and she will be happy to support you. If your child is in Reception, please book your appointment via [Edu Spot](#), your invite will be emailed to you.

Once you have chosen your appointment time, you will be able to access the virtual meeting via the meet link that will appear in your child's Google Classroom on your appointment day. You will need to log into Google Classroom with your child's login details to access this link. To ensure confidentiality for all pupils and parents, please **do not click the link to join the meeting until your allocated time.** The class teacher leading the meeting will allow you into the meeting so please do not worry if you are 'waiting' to be permitted to join. We hope that you understand that this is to ensure the privacy of all and also so that you are able to make the most of your appointment time in a safe and secure way.

For Bradley Class in the absence of a permanent teacher we will still hold the consultations and ensure that between Mr Thorne, Mrs Armstrong, Miss Pindard and I you receive a full picture of your child's progress.

If you are unable to attend a virtual appointment due to internet issues please can you still book your appointment via Edu Spot and inform us.

If you have any further questions regarding this then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Please look after yourselves this half term and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Yours Sincerely

*Mrs L Secker*

Head of Academy

