

STAR ACADEMY SANDYFORD

Newsletter

STAR
ACADEMY • SANDYFORD

Issue 9 | June 2017 | www.staracademy.atrust.org.uk | Tel: 01782 235055

DIARY DATES

Summer Disco 29th June

Book Fair 4th July

Sports Day 6th July 1.15pm

FS2 Graduation 18th July 9:15 am

FS1 & 2 Prize Giving 18th July 9:30 am

KS1 & 2 Prize Giving 19th July 9:15 am

Year 6 Leavers' Party 20th July 6.30 -8.30pm

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 21st July 9am

Academy Closes 21st July at 3.15pm

Academy Reopens Tuesday 5th Sept

IN THIS ISSUE

- Attendance
- Nursery places
- Online safety
- Uniform swap shop
- Text messaging service
- Goodbye and Welcome



Attendance

Attendance is an area that we focus a great amount of attention to year on year. As an academy we have to meet a national target for each pupil of 96%. Most of our pupils do this easily and have either no days off or have very few. However this is not the case across the academy. Many children have not reached the standards that they are capable of due to poor attendance. This is a real shame as many of these missed days could be prevented. We are aware that children get ill and this cannot be helped. Some cases of illness are low level and the children could be in the academy. I am getting increasingly concerned that the true potential of children is not being seen due to poor attendance.

Currently within the academy we have 10 children under 80%, 7 children between 80-85%, 19 between 85-90%, 52 between 90-95% and 120 between 95-100%. We really need to work harder on this in the next academic year and further strategies will be put into place to tackle those who are persistently absent. This is not something that we want to enforce. However, attendance needs to improve to provide the very best opportunities for all our children.

Nursery Places

We currently have vacancies in our academy nursery for this September. If you or anyone you know has a child that may be interested then get in touch to see how you can acquire a place.



ONLINE SAFETY

Miss Broadhurst was extremely saddened to listen to the Mum of the murdered 14 year old boy Breck Bednar at a conference last week. This brave lady told the very sad story of how her son was groomed online by another male through a game. This male became obsessed with her son and

ultimately arranged to meet him and the story ends there. She told us about how she had talked with her son who became fixated with everything that this male told him. She begged all those in the room to make parents aware of the routes to go down if they are concerned about people that their child may be saying are their “friends” online but they do not actually know. It is very easy for us to think that this does not happen to children in

Sandyford or Stoke On Trent. **IT DOES.** If you have concerns about someone that your child is talking to or playing games with online please report it. On our website home page you will see this symbol



connect with Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP).

Please be vigilant around this subject. We do not want another Breck Bednar story.

Useful sites:-

<http://www.breckfoundation.org>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe>

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/safeguarding-children>

TEXT MESSAGING SERVICE

Changes have been made to the texting service to include 2 named contacts. Please keep us updated with new contact numbers so messages reach the correct person.

UNIFORM SWAP SHOP

A great idea put forward by one of the governors was to hold a uniform swap shop. If you have any uniform that your child has grown out of or shoes/trainers that are in good condition please send them in and we will hold a swap shop in a few weeks' time.

Please send clean/washed items.

Thank you.

GOODBYE and WELCOME

It is with sadness that a few members of the team are leaving or have left this term. Mr Hackney the site supervisor sadly left us last week. He will be greatly missed. He has been replaced by Mr Darren Cole in the morning and Redguard Security in an evening. A big welcome to both. We also say sad goodbyes at the end of term to Miss Rand and Mrs Stapleton. Mrs Stapleton has completed her maternity leave and secured a new position at an independent school closer to home. A letter will be attached to this newsletter on who your child's new teacher will be for the next academic year. We will start transition to new classes next week. This will take place on a Wednesday morning and will give the children chance to meet their new teacher.