

Dear parents,

What a very busy half term this has been! The staff at Star Academy Sandyford are amazing and are working so incredibly hard to make sure that the children are getting the best learning experiences despite the restrictions in place. The children are making this easy for them as they shine with our star values everyday. The Academy is a truly wonderful place to learn and grow and I feel privileged to be a part of it.

This month, we sadly had to close a bubble. This decision was taken with the full guidance of Public Health England. As parents, you were incredibly supportive of the situation, thank you.

I know that when the bubbles close, we are concerned for the health of our families but we also need to be concerned about the education of our children. All learning will be shared on Class Dojo and as the parent, you have a responsibility to help your child to access the learning when at home.

We do know however, that there are changes that we could make. We have started to make plans for improvements that should happen after half term. These will include a new learning platform for English and Maths that adapt to meet your child's learning needs and support the teaching of each concept to take the pressure off you as parents and videos of the teachers teaching so that the instruction for the children is clear. We know that you prefer the paper packs and so we will integrate these too.

Can I please ask that you continue to **socially distance and wear face coverings when on the academy grounds**. If we want to keep the bubbles open, we have to share the responsibility to stay safe. And finally, may I please ask that on **PE days that the children wear Star Academy PE uniform**. The uniform helps them to feel part of our team – just like a football kit would if they were part of a football team. It also makes them feel smart and proud of themselves.

Thank you for your continued support,

Warmest wishes, stay safe,

Mrs Wildman

Principal



Our STAR values:

Smart and Safe
Tolerant
Ambitious
Resilient

Desire to learn:
learn to achieve

Parent Consultations Autumn Term

As we can not do a traditional parents' evening, we will be sending interim reports out to you on Friday 23rd October. These will be followed up with a scheduled phone call from your class teacher during the 2nd week of November so that you can ask any questions.

Do you know where to go if you need support?

Star Safeguarding Team

Mrs Wildman
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Lewis
Designated Safeguarding
Lead



Mrs Williams
Home School Link Worker
Early Help Support



Mrs Parker-Bowen
Safeguarding Team
Early Help Support

This is our team at Star Academy.

We are here to help whether it be:

- an ear to listen
- food bank vouchers
- Hygiene products
- Hubb Foundation meal referrals
- A family support worker to help with finance, routines or mental health.

Don't suffer in silence, please ask.

Alice Charity



<https://alicecharity.com/>

Hubb Foundation



<https://www.thehubbfoundation.com/>

Gingerbread

November charity
of the month

Gingerbread
Single parents, equal families

<https://www.gingerbread.org.uk/>

Update on one of our Key lines of Improvement

1) **Safeguarding** - Ensure the effective implementation of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2020.

This year all of our staff have received level 1 safeguarding training, specific training around Keeping Children safe in Education (KCSIE) and Peer on Peer abuse training.

This has helped us to look at our safeguarding procedures and this year, we will focus on two areas in particular, Peer on Peer abuse and children's mental health.

We know, from the parent surveys, that bullying or peer on peer abuse is still a concern for you as parents. We want you to know that we take it seriously. We have put into place new procedures for the rare occasion that bullying occurs that involve support for the victim and the perpetrator. We have also looked at the curriculum and how we can teach tolerance and resilience to our children to prevent bullying from happening. Our Junior Leadership Team is already involved in helping us to make these changes.

Bullying is often linked to poor mental health and so we are tightening up our systems to ensure that all children get the mental health support that they need when they need it. We are proactively teaching the children how to support their own mental health through our curriculum.

Dojo results October 2020

Well done to Nursery, Reception, Year 3
And Year 5 - 100% positive dojos.
Great STAR qualities being shown!

Nursery	1331	0
Reception	1485	0
Year 1	587	1
Year 2	720	2
Year 3	1662	0
Year 4	1475	5
Year 5	1485	0
Year 6	2174	12
Total	11,119	20

Dates for your diary:

Interim report 1 - Friday 23rd October

Half term – Monday 26th October until
November 2nd November inclusive. Children
return to the academy on **Tuesday 3rd**
November

Gingerbread day – wear an item of orange bring
£1 to support the Gingerbread Charity -**Friday**
November 6th

Parent calls – week beginning 9th **November**

Interim report 2 – 18th December 2020

End of term – 18th December 2020
Children return to the academy on **Monday 4th**
January 2021

Our October Learning

Nursery

In Nursery we have been learning how to use and look after our new sand and water area. We have been on an Autumn walk and investigated Autumn materials. We have enjoyed learning about "The Tiger who came to Tea, and during this topic we have enjoyed themes such as celebrations, families and all about me.



Reception - We have enjoyed our phonics lessons, particularly when learning the 'Song of Sounds song', which is really helping the children's progress in reading. In maths, we have focused on shape and pattern making. We have been printing patterns using 2/3 colours.

This week, the children have been finding out about tigers and learning facts about them.

Year 1

The children have made great progress with their learning this half term!

In maths, we have been focussing on 2d shapes and lines of symmetry. The children have enjoyed creating symmetrical patterns using their shapes and I thought that you would like to see some of the different patterns that they have come up with! During our wider curriculum lessons, we have talked about the qualities of leaders. The children have had fun taking it in turns to lead their classmates around the hall, giving each other different directions. After the half term break, we will be learning about the countries which make up the United Kingdom. I appreciate your support in listening to your children read at home. Please can you ensure that the reading books are returned to school with your child each day so that they can be changed on a regular basis.



Our October Learning



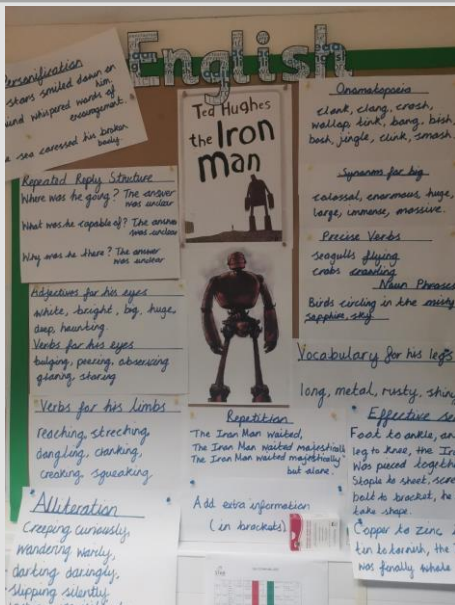
Year 2

Year 2 have had a busy time in October, making up for the time that we were at home. The class have been looking at the seasons and enjoying our book 'The Helpful Hedgehog'. As you can see Year 2 made their own hedgehogs and painted them gold. They have also written poetry about the Seasons and what it means to be a member of Star Academy.

Father Chris very kindly agreed to be interviewed by Year 1 and 2. We connected using the wonders of technology and Father Chris was asked questions about how to be a good leader.

Year 3

Year 3 have enjoyed so much learning this month. In English we have been writing poetry. In Maths we have been learning about multiplying and dividing. We have found out about The Americas including the human and physical geography. In Science we have explored solids, liquids and gases and particularly enjoyed acting as molecules and turning chocolate from a solid to a liquid on our tongues



Year 4 We have been learning about solids, liquids and gases and how we can change the state of each one through processes such as melting and freezing. We also did an experiment on How long chocolate takes to melt in different temperatures of water.

In English we have been preparing for our big write on 'The Iron Man' by learning how to use good descriptive vocabulary to improve the quality of our writing.

Our October Learning

Year 5 - Year 5 have blown Mrs Eptlett away with their final piece of writing on the story of Varmints. The quality of all the children has been amazing. The children have also been learning about how fantastic they all are as part of Mental health day; they all wore colourful socks and wrote about their skills and talents.

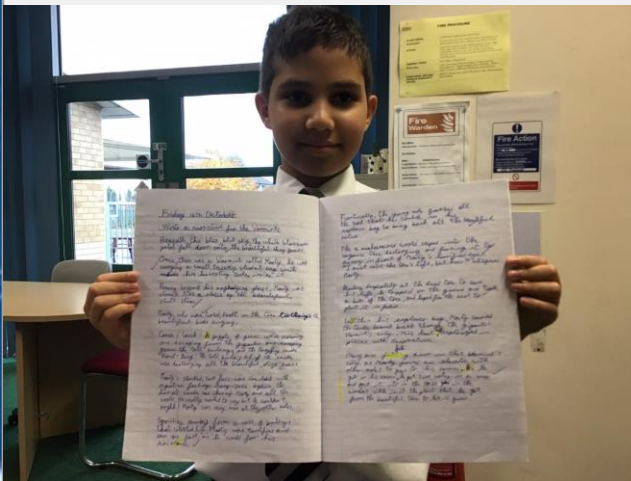


Year 6 –

We have a photo of Mazin for a wonderful piece of writing that had all the features evident - Film narrative of the Varmints.

We have focused on arithmetic and sentence structure this October. Children have enjoyed learning about the various depictions of Jesus and The Last Supper.

Our blended learning has included spellings and math quizzes as well as our study guides being sent home for October half-term



Bake a leg!

#GreatGingerBake

Wear an item of orange to school to support the Gingerbread charity – bring £1 November 6th

Our October
honour's list

N

Aaron, Daisie,
Darcie, Ellie,
Gracie, Harry
Heaven, Heidi
Travis, William

R

Ava-Rose
Oliver
Berry
Evie

Y1

Shyla
Vincent
Bailey
Isabelle
Khia-Rai
Alexa

Y2

Maisie,
Lauren,
Noah,
Haytham

Y3

Alice
Madison
Amelia
Rahat
Riley C
Lyla

Y4

Alfie
Maisy
Ruby
Max
Nawazish
Ryan

Y5

Daniel
Aimen
Miley Jack
Ruby-Grace
Sam

Y6

Lily-Mae
Alfie
Megan H
Abdullah
Chloe
Joshua

If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or feeling unwell
But they don't have:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough, or
- a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

These are
not normally symptoms of coronavirus

Seek advice from a pharmacy,
dial 111 or see your GP

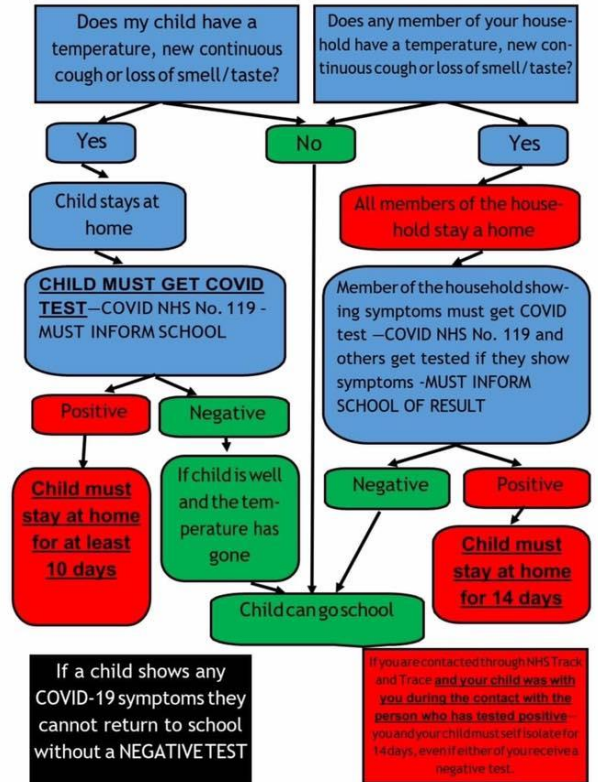
If your child has:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough, or
- a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

This could be a sign of
coronavirus

Book a test

COVID Symptoms At HomeFlow Chart



HM Government

NHS

3 ways to protect yourself and others

Hands

Face

Space