

Friday 11th December 2020

Dear parents/carers

### Staffing

It is with great sadness that I announce that Mr. Stronge's last day at Star Academy will be Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Mr Stronge has been a fantastic member of our team at Star Academy and he is will be sorely missed by both adults and children alike. We wish him all the very best on the next stages of his teaching adventure and hope that he stays in touch.

Taking his place will be Mrs Pitt. She is due to start with us, teaching in year 3 on January 4<sup>th</sup> but will be in the academy for three days next week to begin her induction. This will of course include meeting the children so that they know who she is prior to the start of term. We look forward to welcoming Mrs. Pitt, as a permanent teacher, to our wonderful teaching team.

### Free School Meals

Each eligible child in the family will receive a voucher for £35 for the Christmas break. Before the end of term, you will receive a link directly from Schoolvouchers.com and you will be able to select an eVoucher from a supermarket on the list. You will be able choose from Aldi, Asda, Iceland, Morrisons, Sainsburys and Tesco. The eVoucher code will be displayed on-screen and can be downloaded.

### Safer schools APP

Over the Christmas period, many children receive new phones and devices which allow them access to the internet. We have recently resent you details about the safer schools APP. This app has everything you need to keep your child safe online.

You can download the app free of charge and then put in the school details to gain access.

The schools full name is use: **Star Academy Sandyford.**

The entry code for **parents** is **7440**

The entry code if you wish to put the app on your **child's device** is **9342.**

**It is important to use the correct code because the content is different.**

**The safer schools app has a special section called ' First Phone' (inside the online safety centre tile) that shows adults and children how to set up a first phone using the safety features.**

### Donations for the Hubb Foundation

As part of our Christmas celebrations, we are asking for donations for the Hubb Foundation. These are **cash** donations only please. Many of you have already asked about how much. We will accept whatever you choose to give. We understand that for some of you being able to donate is not something that you can do at this time. For others, you have already shared with me how much the Hubb Foundation have

**Star Academy Sandyford** Burnaby Road, Sandyford, Stoke on Trent, ST6 5PT.

Principal: Mrs Kate Wildman Executive Principal: Mrs Bobbie Caisley

T: 01782 235055 E: office@staracademy.attrust.org.uk W: www.staracademy.attrust.org.uk



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

SILVER AWARD

Proudly supporting those who serve.

supported you and that now you are ready to give something back to them so that they can support all of our families further.

The Hubb Foundation are the charity that provide our free holiday clubs with all the wonderful activities and lunch; they have provided slow cookers and meals for many of our families and during lockdown, they provided weekly food boxes for many of our families. They are simply a wonderful charity, who we will continue to support.

### Track and Trace during Christmas

May I remind you that if your child **attends school on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December**, **develops symptoms on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> or Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup>** and then **tests positive for Corona virus**, it is vitally important that you let us know so that we can alert classmates and teachers to self-isolate.

### Uniform

In the new year, we will be preparing for a change of uniform which we hope to roll out at Easter. We will give you all the exciting details in January but please do not spend any money on new uniform during the Spring term.

**Thank you** all so much for your support over the past term, it has been the toughest term I have known. Thanks especially to the year 5 families who had to self-isolate for 4 weeks. We appreciate that that was really difficult for you. We have worked really hard on developing the website so that children can access their learning at home. We have also sourced programmes which bespoke the learning to the child to make home learning a better experience for you all. We will continue to develop our home learning in the new year.

After Christmas, we will be adding additional interventions to our curriculum to support catch up for the children to get them all back on track. Reports will come to you as soon as we are back, once all our staff are back and well enough to complete them and we will also inform you of additional learning tools that your children can use.

I sincerely hope that you all stay well and that you have a wonderful Christmas spending time with your favourite people.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Kind regards,



Mrs Wildman