

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are well.

We have had a very full and exciting week in the academy. The majority of our classes have had fun taking part in their individual bubble Sports Days. The year 6 bubble have enjoyed experiencing an intensive swimming block. The whole school have had an amazing time participating in the Pentathlon activities. Also today, we have held our transition day so that children could experience their new class for next year.



### Year 3 Beach Visit

Year 3 had a great outdoor learning day at Gwithian beach on Tuesday. Luckily, the sun shone as the children climbed over rocks discovering sea life such as limpets, crabs and anemones. The children were engaged in team games and sand sculptures in the afternoon, with a final collection of plastic pollution as they left the beach.

### Sports Day



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## Transition Day

Each class today were able to spend the day in their new classes taking part in a range of activities and getting to know the staff that they will be with in September. The children all had lots of fun getting to know their new classroom. For the current Year R children, they will meet Miss Bryant, their new teacher in Year 1 during the week beginning Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July. Miss Bryant will be spending time with Mr Masters, as EYFS and KS1 Lead, Mrs Hackett and also with the year R children so they are familiar with her when they return in September.

## Staffing Update

Following a successful round of interviews last Friday, we are delighted to announce that Mrs Deborah Crease will be joining us in September as our Year 4 teacher. Mrs Crease, originally from Cornwall, is an experienced teacher, having taught since 2003. Her, along with her family are returning to her roots after a number of years working away. I am sure you will join myself and all the staff in welcoming Mrs Crease to our Connor Downs family.

Due to commitments at her current school, Mrs Crease was not able to join us for today's transition day. We have however, arranged for Mrs Crease to join us on our final day of term, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, where she will be available on the school gate at the start and end of the day to meet and greet parents/carers and will then spend the rest of the day on transition activities involving the current year 3 children.

## Staffing for the 2021/2022 Academic Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>TA</u>
<u>R</u>	<u>Mr Masters</u>	<u>Miss Pedley and Miss Blewett</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>Miss Bryant</u>	<u>Mrs Hackett</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>Mrs Kitching</u>	<u>Mrs Smith</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>Ms Speight and Mrs Bartaby</u>	<u>Mrs Ridge and Miss Abel 1:1</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>Mrs Crease</u>	<u>Miss Brownlee</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>Mr Pascoe</u>	<u>Miss Reed</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>Miss Norton</u>	<u>Mrs Smitheram</u>
<u>Outdoor Learning</u>	<u>Mr Costello</u>	<u>Miss Pedley</u>

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## Breakfast Club

We are also delighted to announce that following our recent parent/carer survey regarding a breakfast club, as of Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September we will be able to offer this to parents/carers. Further details will be communicated with parents/carers next week. The breakfast club will be run by Miss Scaife and Miss Abel.

## Swimming

This week we have been delighted that the year 6 children have been able to access an intensive block of 5 swimming sessions over the whole week. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to get back into the pool and we have seen some fantastic progress.



Looking to the Autumn Term, St Ives Leisure Centre have decided that at least until Christmas, they will continue with these intensive sessions.

Hopefully after Christmas they will return to their weekly slots.

With this in mind we have booked all of our KS2 classes in for an intensive block of 10 sessions of swimming. Individual class letters will come out for permissions just prior to your child's/children's class swimming, but as an indicator, please see table below of the dates booked for each year group. Payment Items will be set up to enable payments to be made. The cost for the 10 sessions will be £40. Payments by instalments are acceptable as long as full payment is made prior to your child's class starting their sessions.

Week Beginning:	Class:
13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 6
20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 6
11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 5
18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 5
1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Year 4
8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Year 4
15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Year 3
22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Year 3

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## Friends Raffle

A reminder that if you would like to purchase raffle tickets for the Friends summer raffle, please send your envelopes into your child's class anytime between now and the 13<sup>th</sup> July.  
The draw will take place in our virtual shine assembly on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July.



## Connor Downs Academy Pentathlon

The children have all been busy this week in classes taking part in their Pentathlon activities. We would like to thank everyone for the kind sponsorship and would like to remind parents/cares that all sponsorship money should be paid in via ParentPay by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at the latest. If you have difficulty accessing ParentPay, please request a PayPoint letter from the school office to enable you to pay cash in via any shop showing the Paypoint logo.

## End of term

The last day of the summer term is **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021**. It will be a normal school uniform day finishing at the usual times.

The Autumn term begins on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Please note that gates will open at 08:30am and closes at 08:45am.

## COVID-19 Asymptomatic Staff Testing Programme Across Aspire Academies

Every primary school in England now has access to rapid coronavirus testing for staff only. This testing, known as lateral flow testing, for our staff, is now taking place twice a week.

Please be aware that in a positive test scenario, you may receive communication of a bubble closure (if your child is in school) at extremely short notice, before school, on the morning of the closure. **You will be informed by text so please check your text messages from 8am onwards on a Monday and a Thursday morning.**

## Reporting Positive COVID-19 Test (out of hours)

If you receive a positive COVID-19 test, in the first instance please contact the school office by phone. If the office is closed, please complete the form at the link below to report a positive test.

<http://www.aspireacademytrust.org/coronavirus>

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## Covid update

Thank you for your ongoing support with following Covid guidance. Since March 2020, when we experienced our first lockdown, your support in adhering to Covid measures has been tremendous. This has enabled our school to run smoothly and our children to be able to access their education, with no bubble closures to date. The government has updated their Step 4 guidance this week. The Trust have fully reviewed this document and attached with this newsletter is a letter from Mrs Bragg,, CEO of Aspire, sharing our plans for opening from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021 until the end of this academic term.

Essentially, what this means for us is:

- The staggered drop offs and pick ups which are currently in place will continue to the end of term
- The bubbles will remain intact
- The children will continue to have lunches in their classrooms
- The staff will continue to provide learning following their current timetables
- Face coverings are no longer recommended in communal areas (Again, should there be a local outbreak this may be reintroduced for a fixed time period). However, all parents/carers and staff continue to have the right to wear face coverings in communal areas, should they decide to, based on their own personal circumstances.
- Social distancing however, remains important and I would kindly ask all parents/carers to continue to adhere to social distancing measures. Thank you.

## From Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September

- No class bubbles required (However please be aware that moving forward should there be a local outbreak bubbles may be reintroduced for a fixed time period)
- All children to arrive on the school site between 8.30am and 8.45am when the green gates will close.
- All children to be collected/dismissed at 3.15pm
- To ease congestion on site, the following drop off and collection points will remain in place:

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Year	Drop off point	Collection point
R	Year R classroom door	Year R classroom door
1	Side Door of Year 1	Side door of Year 1
2	Key Stage 1 door	Key Stage 1 door
3	Foot of granite steps	Foot of granite steps
4	Foot of granite steps	Foot of granite steps
5	Main entrance	Main entrance
6	Main entrance	Main entrance

- Assemblies can resume including Shine assemblies.
- Lunchtime mixing can resume and school meals/packed lunches to be eaten in the school hall.
- Schools are no longer required to trace contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact.
- Face coverings are no longer recommended in communal areas (Again, should there be a local outbreak this may be reintroduced for a fixed time period). However, all parents/carers and staff continue to have the right to wear face coverings in communal areas, should they decide to, based on their own personal circumstances.

### **Additional/ September Guidance**

- From 16th August, children under the age of 18 and double vaccinated staff are no longer required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a positive COVID case. Instead of isolation NHS Test and Trace will contact all close contacts and advise them to take a PCR test.
- If we were to experience several confirmed Covid cases within 14 days, we may have an outbreak. If there is an outbreak in a setting or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.
- Control measures required in schools have now been reduced to:

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1. **Ensure good hygiene for everyone** – We will ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water.
  2. **Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.**– High use staff areas such as staffrooms and shared communal areas will be cleaned thoroughly.
  3. **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated** – When school is in operation, it is important to ensure it is well ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained. When holding events where visitors such as parents/carers are on site, for example school plays, the environment used will be well ventilated whilst maintaining a comfortable temperature.
  4. **Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19** – Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).
- Remote Education – This will be provided for children who need to self-isolate because they have tested positive, to complete at home, if they are well enough to do so.

The link to the full guidance is here: [Schools COVID-19 operational guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/86562/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance.pdf)

<b>Attendance</b>		
Our school target for attendance is 96%		
Joint 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Year 3	99.6 %
Joint 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Year 4	99.6 %
Joint 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Year 6	98.4 %
Joint 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Year R	98.4 %
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Year 5	97.1 %

### **Shine Celebrations**

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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## Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### Year R – Amelia

For showing perseverance and enthusiasm during the Reception class Sports Day. Amelia is a true team player.

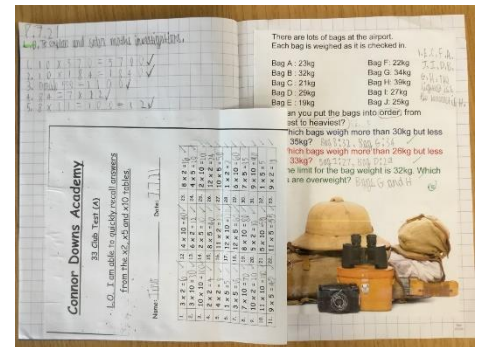


### Year 1 – Carter

For fantastic effort and enthusiasm during the Year 1 Sports Day. Well done Carter!

### Year 2 – Tino

For excellent results when exploring and solving maths investigations as part of Curriculum Week.



### Year 3 – Isobel

For excellent team leader skills in science when rock pooling at Gwithian Beach and showing her friends how to find limpets.



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## Year 4 – Emir

Emir is always a kind and caring friend to all those around him. He has really impressed with his efforts with the Jumbie Jams and helping others. Well done!

## Year 5 – Darcey

For her competitive spirit and participation during our Year 5 Sports Day.

## Year 6 – Chelsey

For taking part so enthusiastically in our swimming lessons this week. We are so proud of you!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy  
Head of School