The Crescent Academy

News

Enriching the lives of our children

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March 2021

HEAD TEACHER'S WELCOME

It seems only right that this month's newsletter begins with a huge 'WELCOME BACK' to all of our children! I can't quite believe that we are almost 12 months on from our first lockdown last year, but I hope you're as optimistic as I am that things will start to feel more 'normal' again soon.

Although the children have been away, we have not taken our foot off the pedal in school, so I'm pleased to share with you some of the things we have been up to in this Newsletter to make school even more exciting than ever before! This Newsletter also contains all the information you need about what you can expect for your child now they have returned to school.

Finally, we know that home schooling has been far from easy, but seeing how well the children have settled back into school life shows what a truly fantastic job you have done as parents and carers to keep learning alive at home. I know the staff have been on the phone a lot too to check in on you all; they've all been full of praise for the job you've done. With any luck, we won't be in that situation again, but from us all at Crescent, **thank you!**

—Adam Clewes

The Crescent Academy

MARVELLOUS ME!



I am delighted to let you know that we will be launching an exciting new app called **MarvellousMe.** Lots of you responded to our questionnaire in October that you'd like to receive even more information about what your child is doing at school, so we hope you'll enjoy using this app. It'll send you a message to share something marvellous your child has done and to share information about their learning and skills development.

The MarvellousMe Parent app is free, fun and simple to use. It will help you to:

- Have a meaningful conversation with your child about their school day.
- Continue your child's learning and practise topics that they've done in class.
- Celebrate and reinforce their successes and positive behaviours.

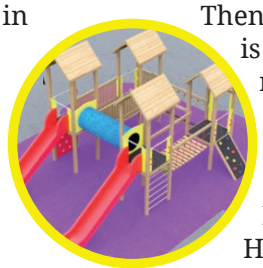
You will be able to enjoy MarvellousMe on your smartphone, tablet or online, and can easily share it with partners, carers and family members.

We will send you a letter containing all the details of how you can sign up to MarvellousMe, and your special join code.

You can find out more at **marvellousme.com.** We think you will love it!

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

I think by now you know that I like to keep things changing for the better for all our children. One of the major things children in our older classes wanted is somewhere amazing to spend their break times and lunchtimes. So, the developers are currently on site making this a reality! There's going to be some 'traditional' playground equipment like swings and roundabouts, not to forget an enormous play tower! I'm certain the children will love it! You can see the plans here.



That's not all that's improving though! We have a brand new fitness suite in creation which children will be able to use after the Easter holidays featuring treadmills and exercise bikes.

Then, also under construction is a spectacular cinema room, featuring comfy sofas, to bring learning experiences to reality using new technology. Finally, there's an iMac Hub on the way so that children can experience a completely different type of computer!

We will show-off our new spaces on our Social Media platforms once complete and hopefully in our next Newsletter so keep your eyes peeled!

IN OTHER NEWS...

NOW WE'RE BACK, WHAT WILL SCHOOL LIFE BE LIKE?

Put simply, our intention is always to give children experiences which make their education enjoyable! So, whilst we may not be able to get out on educational visits at the moment, we will be doing plenty to make sure that children's enjoyment is at the heart of what we are doing!

For the first week of children's return, I have promised them a fun and creative week with minimal writing!! In addition to the fabulous things children will be doing with their own teachers, Mr Davies has a Bushcraft day planned for all year groups to enjoy, Mrs Music Cooper can't wait to get them all singing again and Mr Barton is all set for some active PE lessons!

I can also confirm that we have no plans for children to do lots of tests straight away to see how they are doing. Our staff are looking forward to working alongside the children to get an idea of what their learning needs are since being away.



Our Class Clubs will recommence after the Easter break (info will follow from Class Teachers) and these clubs will have a focus of children's wellbeing – opportunity to chat and chill, rather than any curriculum-based activities this time around.

You will receive a short paragraph in a few weeks; this will be about how your children are doing generally in school and will replace the parents' evenings we would usually have at this time of year. A further report will be sent home to you just before the May half term too.

We have lots of plans coming together to make sure children are settled back in and we will share these with you as we go. Make sure you download the MarvellousMe Parents' App so that you can see for yourself what children are up to.

WORLD BOOK DAY 2021

It was certainly a bit of a different World Book Day this year, but I was overwhelmed by how involved everyone managed to get, even from a social distance!! The #ExtremeReaders competition was amazing, I loved seeing the children in character for our Zoom assembly and I hope they enjoyed seeing the staff get involved too with our read of 'Room on the Broom'.

A huge well done to everyone who took part and an extra well done to the four winners of the competition. Next year, we will be celebrating World Book Day together with even more excitement than before! Here's a reminder of those who caught the Judges' eyes to win the competition.









TERM DATES REMINDER

A few of you have got in touch to check on term dates for the rest of the year ahead. I thought it would be useful to share a reminder:

- **We close for Easter** at 3.15 on Thursday April 1.
- **We reopen** on Monday April 19.
- **School Closed** on Monday May 3 (Bank Holiday).
- **Half term holidays:** Monday May 31 to Friday June 4.
- **School is also closed for INSET Days** on Friday July 9 and Wednesday July 21.
- **We close for the Summer holidays** at 3.15 on Tuesday July 20 (please note there will be no after school club available on this day).
- **We open in September** to children on Thursday September 2.
- **October half term:** We will close at 3.15pm on Thursday October 21, reopening on Tuesday November 2.
- **We close for Christmas** at 3.15pm on Friday December 17, coming back on Tuesday January 4 2022.

Dates beyond this can be viewed online: thecrescentacademy.com/about/term-dates-2021-2022

STAFFING UPDATE

In a few weeks Mrs Bostock will be leaving us to have a baby. We wish her well and know she is looking forward to this new adventure. Mrs Parkinson and Miss Cooper will remain with Y3LB, supported by Miss Bragg, until the end of the year.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

Year group emails are here to stay; they've proved so very useful during the lockdown. If you need to contact a member of your child's staff, please drop an email to the year group email account, and these will be responded to during the working day. The email addresses are:

- Nursery@thecrescentacademy.org.uk
- Reception@thecrescentacademy.org.uk
- Year1@thecrescentacademy.org.uk
- Year2@thecrescentacademy.org.uk
- Year3@thecrescentacademy.org.uk
- Year4@thecrescentacademy.org.uk
- Year5@thecrescentacademy.org.uk
- Year6@thecrescentacademy.org.uk