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St Mary's

Church of England Primary School

Newsletter No. 36 Friday 23rd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are well and are looking forward to the summer holiday.

We would like to give you an outline of what we hope the new academic year will look like now that restrictions have started to lift. We have taken these steps following continued advice from the Department of Education, Public Health and the Local Authority, and we are updating our school risk assessment.

All of these steps are subject to change should any further restrictions be imposed. We will of course keep you fully informed of any changes.

The Timetable from September:

Our aim is that classes will no longer be in bubbles. This means that we will be reverting back to our 'normal' school hours of 8.55am-3.30pm for all classes. It's important to note that we could see the return of children grouped in bubbles if we are advised to do so.

The Start of the School Day:

Informal feedback from parents about dropping the children off on the front playground had been overwhelmingly positive, so we'd like to retain this feature into next year. We have seen that this has created a calm, positive start to the school day, which has helped develop independence in the children.

The school gates will be open from 8.40am for you to begin bringing your children in to school within a 15-minute window and they can go straight to class. Senior staff will be on duty at this time. As there will be a greater volume of parents coming through the gates, the double gate formerly used as an exit, will become the new entrance to the front playground; these will be clearly signposted.

- **Year One 2021/22:** As these children are new to coming into school via the Church Hill Road entrance, we would like to invite their parents and carers to accompany the children to the Year One classroom door, within the same 15-minute window (8.40-8.55am).
- **Reception 2021/22:** We would like to invite the children to come to class via the Littlegrove entrance which is where they all came on their visit a few weeks ago. This will also be between 8.40 and 8.55am.

The End of the School Day:

At the end of the day, all classes will be dismissed from their classrooms at 3.30pm at which point, parents and carers can come onto the main playground.

Collective Worship

We are planning for daily Worship to take place in the hall next term. We are really looking forward to being able to sing and be together again.

Today, we had our first, socially distanced, whole school, live act of collective worship since last academic year! We said our final goodbyes to Y6, the small number of children moving on from St Mary's and of course to Mrs. Kelly.



Coached PE and kits:

Our evaluations and comments from parents have led to the decision for children to continue to come to school in PE kits on coached PE days. This means PE kits will be washed more frequently and there are less delays to the start of PE lessons. Please note that trainers are best for PE rather than plimsolls. We'll confirm which days of week PE will be on for each class in September.

Breakfast Club:

Breakfast Club will continue to run in September at its usual time of 7.45am at the cost of £5.50 per session. There is no requirement to book a place. The children can enjoy a cooked breakfast and cereal. Our breakfast club is run by our own staff.

Staffing update:

We are currently in the process of recruiting a new caretaker and hope to finalise this over the summer. We'll share more details with you early next term.

Goodbye Year Six:

This morning, we had the great pleasure of leading the Year Six Leavers' Service which was attended by their families. We wish the children all the very best as they begin this next, new exciting chapter of their lives.



Dates for your diaries:

- Training day: Wednesday 1st September
- Children return to school: Thursday 2nd September

From all of us at St Mary's primary school, stay safe, stay well and our love and prayers be with you as always.

**Maria Constantinou and Mel Adams
Headteachers**



OUR SCHOOL LEAVERS PRAYER

*This is our school,
Let peace dwell here,
Let each room be full of contentment.
Let love abide here.*

*Love of one another,
Love of people everywhere,
Love of life itself,
And love of God.*

*Let us remember
That as many hands build a house,
So many hearts build a school*

*For those moving on;
Thank you that they have shared peace, contentment and love
May they take with them peace, contentment and love.
May they continue to give love to those around them, love life itself, and know the
love of God.
Thank you that as many hands build a house, their hands and hearts have helped to
build our school.*

*Thank you that what they have built
will remain at the heart of our school
in the hearts of those who have known them
and in the hearts of those who remain.*

*And may God bless and keep each one of us, those leaving and those staying. May
God make His light to shine upon us and be gracious to us.
May God give us His peace.*

Amen