

ST GEORGE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr Mark Braund

18 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope all is well and that you had a good weekend. We are all so thrilled with having the children back in school. They are really happy and pleased to be back. I love being outside in the mornings seeing the children come in to school. They are so enthusiastic and excited to be coming to school!

Car Park

Everything seems to be running smoothly with drop off and pick up. We do appreciate your support with this.

It is important that all parents and carers stay by their cars at the end of the school day and your child/ren will be returned to you. By coming to the gates, it slows the process down. Mr Davies has painted a yellow box by our car park playground gates, parents and carers must keep this area clear. The 'Jess and Jack' signs have been a huge success! It does make it so much easier. Once the car park is full or the children start to leave, Mr Davies puts a cone at the playground gates to stop any other cars entering the playground. Please can KS2 parents stay away from the one way system until approximately 3:10 so that we can guarantee that all the KS1 children and their older siblings have been safely returned to cars.

Please continue to drive slowly and carefully and do make sure that you check your mirrors as you leave the car park.

Before and After School Care

Just a reminder that we offer before and after school club care, which is currently being held in the school gym. Our before school care opens at 7:45am. Our after school care is until 5:30pm. All precautions are being taken to ensure your child is looked after and kept safe and remain in their year group bubbles.

Testing

There is clearly an issue with COVID testing at the moment. As a school, we share this frustration as we would hope that the children and families can be tested as soon as possible so that the children are back in school as quickly and safely as possible.

Working at Home

I will always be extremely grateful to my wonderful team of staff with how they managed Google Classroom so brilliantly during lockdown. The support we gave throughout lockdown is not possible to do if a small number of children are off as our teaching staff are in school delivering lessons throughout the school day.

We will be providing work for children that are having to isolate and have considered many aspects of what this will look like. If a child is unwell for non-covid reasons, there will be no work set and to be honest, an unwell child would not be able to complete work.

For children that are off for covid reasons we will have a three level system.

Level One Support will be for children who are off awaiting test results – they will have access to various online resources such as Bug Club, Mathletics, Times Tables Rockstars, Espresso and more. In addition to this, teachers will upload the daily White Rose Maths sheets and links to the learning videos.

Level Two Support will be for children who have to isolate for 14 days and will be as above as well as

one adapted weekly task in Science, RE, Topic and Writing.

Level Three Support will be for a whole class who have to isolate for 14 days and will be the opening of Google Classroom as it was during lockdown. This will be possible as the class teacher will have to isolate and will work from home.

I am not expecting this but if anyone is considering going overseas during half-term, please could parents and carers communicate with me. If this does happen and a family needs to isolate, we want you to be aware we will not provide full curriculum support at home but level one support only.

Harvest

Our traditional Harvest celebrations will be different this year. We will be producing a pre-recorded video celebration. It will be loaded on to Google Classroom on Thursday 22nd October.

Flu Immunisation

The nurses are visiting St George's on Tuesday 3rd November to give the flu immunisation nasal spray for the whole school. It is vital that parents and carers complete the consent form on <https://saint.sompar.nhs.uk/flu/2020/west>. The link will close at least one week prior to the session date and so it is recommended that you complete the consent form as soon as possible.

Library Newsletter

Starting on **1st October**, we will launch a monthly Library Newsletter with short reviews of newly published children's books. We will post this newsletter on the Library Club Google Classroom page. As an incentive for you to read the first edition, all children who "Mark this Assignment" as done, or post a comment on the assignment will be entered into a prize draw to win a recently published book suitable for their age. Make sure that you login to the Library Club on 1st October!!

Starting School Applications

Key Dates

In recent years, the Local Authority did not send out letters to children due to start school or children due to transfer school giving them information about how to apply for a school place.

Parents can apply on line at <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-learning-and-schools/choosing-a-school/> or phone Somerset Direct for a paper copy of the application 0300 123 2224.

Parent information is now available on the School Admissions Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/Somersetschooladmissions/>

Just a reminder of some of the key dates we would like you to be aware of:

Thursday 22nd October – Last Day in School before Half Term

Friday 23rd October – School INSET Day for Staff only

Monday 2nd November – Back to School

Friday 18th December – End of Autumn Term

Wednesday 6th January – Start of the Spring Term

Friday 12th February – Last Day in School before Half Term

Monday 22nd February - School INSET Day for Staff only

Tuesday 23rd February – Back to School

Thursday 1st April- Last Day in School before Easter Holidays

Monday 19th April – Back to School

Monday 3rd May – Bank Holiday Monday

Friday 28th May - Last Day in School before Half Term

Monday 7th June – School INSET Day for Staff only

Friday 23rd July – End of the School Year