



NEWSLETTER

5th June 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have all enjoyed the incredible weather over half term (and the weeks preceding it), and that despite these strange and unsettling times, you managed to enjoy some quality family time.

This week at school we have welcomed back into many of our Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children as well as more of our Key Worker children. If your child has returned, we hope that you found the advance communication useful in preparing your child and in giving you a better understanding the way in which the school is set up in order to promote the key safety messages that the government has requested in the 'Return to School Guidance'. We have set up a designated area on our school website so that you can see the most up to date school plans and risk assessments that we are working with—these will be revised as required. [These documents can be accessed here](#)

We have been delighted with the way in which the children have settled back in to school, taking everything in their stride and embracing the opportunity to work in a new and different way but to have fun at the same time. Please can we ask that children come to school each day in freshly laundered clothes to help reduce the transmission of the Covid-19 virus. If there is a day when you do not have a complete uniform we would rather that they came in a clean 'home' t-shirt for the day than school uniform that had been worn the day before.

Trainers or shoes (any colour) can be worn—we just ask that they are suitable for wearing all day and that they enable your child to participate in a busy active day (including physical exercise).

Online Home Learning (via SeeSaw) continues for those children who have either chosen to remain at home or are currently in year groups that cannot access school (Y2,Y3/Y4/Y5), this will operate in much the same way as it has done during 'Lockdown' but please be mindful of the fact that the majority of staff are now based in school working with the children so will not be able to be as receptive to questions or responses to pieces of submitted work, as they were before half term. Teachers will continue to choose 'Star Learners' whether your child is in school or remains at home and the tasks they will be completing will be broadly similar whether they are at home or school. Each day will still start with a message from the class Teacher or TA on SeeSaw and we will aim to ensure this is posted ready for the start of the school day. If you cannot access SeeSaw please email the school office so that class teachers can contact you and remedy this situation.

Currently most of our staff are working on-site however we have a few staff who, for a number of reasons, are currently unable to be on site due to medical risks for pre existing conditions (non- Covid-19 related). I include myself in that group, as following a period of significant ill health during the lockdown, I am required to 'shield' for a number of weeks more. I am however now back to full health, and (*very much*) working from home leading the school. Any questions and queries for me can be directed to the office and I will respond via email or phone (as appropriate) - I am hopeful that I will be able to be in school within the next few weeks but in the meantime I am in constant contact with the school office and staff team. I am immensely proud of the work they have done in getting our school ready for the re-opening, not to mention everything they did from March—May in establishing such a successful home learning offer whilst also maintaining a provision for Key worker children at 'Woodwater'. I am also very grateful to Mrs Jones-White who held the fort in my absence and kept the team on track in very challenging times.

Please note that our school office remains closed for face-to-face contact. However, you can still contact us via email (stdavids@ventrus.org.uk) or by phone on 01392 255569. If you are unable to get through by phone, please send us an email; we have reduced numbers of staff on site but we will endeavour to get back to you during the school day if your matter is urgent.

Best Wishes & Stay Safe,
Fran Brinicombe

Ruby's Star Learner

Reception: Otto has worked continuously hard over the lockdown period. He has enjoyed taking part in his home learning activities and has often impressed his teachers by extending his learning further. This week I have been really impressed by Otto's fantastic reading and his doodling skills. Thank you for your hard work Otto!

Emerald's Star Learner

Year 1: Imogen for her confidence in class where everything is very different, for showing fantastic independence within her learning and for her mature attitude to returning to school this week. Well done Imogen!

Year 2 : Theo for the confidence his is shown in class whilst adapting to the different environment and expectations. He has also produced some great independent learning. Well done Theo!

Sapphire's Star Learner

Year 3: Kuba is a responsible learner. His times tables knowledge is amazing and it is lovely to see him so eager and excited on TTRockstars.. Well done Kuba

Year 4: Cole has produced some lovely pieces of home learning again this week. His presentation computer skills are amazing. Thank you for extending our learning Cole with adding interesting 'links' on seesaw.

Diamond's Star Learner

Year 5: Krzysztof has had a fantastic week: he drew a wonderful scorpion for his Desert theme front cover and he was also responsible for naming our team 'Daring Diamond Desert Discoverers'. Well done and thank you Kris!

Year 6: Isabelle has worked tirelessly this week, producing work of the highest standard. Her desert theme cover and DDDD team logo were particularly brilliant! Well done and thank you Isabelle!

Our Christian Values

Respect

Forgiveness

Compassion

Friendship

Justice

Trust



Newsletter

Please note we will be STRICTLY adhering to the Guidance below:

If your child is unwell with any symptoms of Covid-19 DO NOT SEND THEM IN TO SCHOOL as this poses a risk to their peers, teachers, teaching assistants and our wider school community.

NHS Test and Trace - Update from Devon's Public Health Team

- NHS Test and Trace was launched on 28th May 2020 to support the next stage of the pandemic. This is a national function to help trace close recent contacts of anyone who tests positive and notifies them if they need to self-isolate. The objectives of NHS Test and Trace are to control the rate of reproduction (R), reduce the spread of infection and save lives.
- It is supported by new Local Authority responsibilities.

Agreed Devon Protocol

Suspected or confirmed cases within schools (What to do...)

If a child or staff member becomes symptomatic (new continuous cough, fever or loss or change in taste or smell) then they should isolate away from others until they can go home.

If staff need to be within 2m of the child, but without physical contact then they should wear a mask. I

If staff need to be within 2m of the child and there will be physical contact then staff should wear PPE (apron, gloves and mask). **The child will need to self-isolate at home for 14 days after the onset of symptoms and book a test.**

At this pointThe child or staff member's pod does not need to self-isolate.

The school will notify the local Health Protection Team.

Click [**HERE**](#) for how to book a test. It is essential that you then share the **official results** of the test with the school as soon as you receive them (usually within 48 hours).

If a child or staff member tests positive for Coronavirus then they will need to self-isolate at home for 7 days after the onset of symptoms or if asymptomatic, for 7 days after the test. The household of the child or staff member will need to self-isolate for 14 days from the same date. The child or staff member's 'pod' will also need to self-isolate for 14 days from the same date.

AT THIS POINT WE WILL INFORM PARENTS AND CLOSE THE 'POD' FOR 14 DAYS – ALL POD PUPILS & POD STAFF WILL BE REQUIRED TO STAY AWAY FROM SCHOOL FOR THE FULL 14 DAYS (siblings of asymptomatic children in different pods may still attend).

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