

13th November 2020

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank all of you who embraced technology and dialled in via Microsoft TEAMS for your 'Parents Evening' appointment(s) this week. We are all learning to work in different ways and there will inevitably be some glitches and hiccups along the way, but staff commented on how lovely it was to chat freely (without masks) about the progress and attainment of your children and to be able to see and feel like it was a proper face to face meeting rather than a wave across the playground. We continue to be amazed by the resilience of the children as they adapt to all of the changes that we put in place in order to keep them as safe as possible.

We are very conscious that the pandemic means that some of our usual Christmas festivities and traditions will not be able to take place in the way that they do usually, but we are working hard to generate Covid safe versions of events so that the children do not miss out. We hope to be able to share more of this with you next week but in the meantime, please be assured, that Christmas at St David's will definitely not be cancelled!

With Best Wishes & Stay Safe, Fran Brinicombe

Is TikTok safe for children?

Although it is very popular, and can encourage creativity, the app can also reveal children at their most vulnerable, expressive and, in some cases, provocative, in their bid to become the next internet sensation. The app encourages videos to be shared, and the use of hashtags (#) increases the viewing audience. It has had some bad press over the years due to concerns over deadly pranks, grooming and unsuitable content. Inevitably, TikTok attracts some unsuitable characters due to its popularity with children, and we therefore advise you carefully monitor your child if they are using this site.

Ruby Class

"Ignis - a place where dragons and human live alongside each other!"

Wow, what an exciting week in Ruby class...again! We have been introduced to a magical place called 'Ignis'. This week we looked at a map of Ignis, studying the key to see what belongs in Ignis. Swamps, a church, waterfalls and mountains! We are so excited to find out more information about Ignis next week and learn about the different types of dragons.

Thank you to all the Ruby parents that attended parents evening.

Star Learner

Reception : Oscar - I am so impressed with Oscar's effort in Ruby class this week. During phonics he has been having a go at writing CVC words and reading them back to his peers. He has also been using his questioning skills to ask questions about our fictional place Ignis! A great week for Oscar.

Year 1—Mackenzie has had a great week in Ruby class. He has been a good role model for the other children in Ruby, showing good listening skills and taking in turns during independent play. Mackenzie is looking for sounds he knows in the environment - fantastic! Well done Mackenzie, we are very proud of you.

Sapphire Class

This week in Sapphire class we celebrated Remembrance Day and we discussed what the poppy represents. We remembered those who did not come home from the battle fields and who bravely gave their lives for us. This week we also looked at the recent US elections and the importance of democracy in our own society

Star Learner

Year 3 : Hollie is a responsible and creative learner. She works hard in all areas of her learning and is a role model in Sapphire class. She is becoming more confident when speaking in class, sharing her ideas and opinions in whole class discussions.

Year 4 : Kayden has been showing resilience in all areas of learning. He has been fully engaged in the topic of 'A dragons Place', producing lovely pieces of writing. He wrote a great letter this week using some ambitious vocabulary. Well done and Thank you.

Emerald Class

This week Emerald Class have been exploring the deep dark forest of Ignis . Crystals have been discovered in the forest and are being investigated as it is believe they hold magical powers ! The children have been planning how to make their own salt crystals !

Star Learner

Year 2 : Oliver for his wonderful ideas for writing this week . He has been working very independently and carefully thinking about his vocabulary choices Well done and keep it up Oliver

Diamond Class

This week Diamond class have designed simulations of their last mission so that future Wings, Roars and Claws recruits might learn what it takes to be a successful member of the team. The children have also looked at data handling, line graphs and converting data into percentages as part of Maths Week England, and on Wednesday they spent the day learning about the key moments of the Second World war and why Remembrance day is so important.

Star Learner

Year 5: Oliwia has made a great start to life in Diamond class. She is a hardworking, organised and a kind and helpful member of the class, and her efforts within maths and PE this week have been particularly impressive. Well done and thank you Oliwia!

Year 6: Abdul has worked extremely hard in all subjects this week, and is keener now to put his hand up and share his ideas. He has also been a great friend to our newest member of the class, helping him settle in and learn about life at our school. Well done and thank you Abdul!

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.

Please continue to be alert for the main symptoms of coronavirus:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you or anyone in your household shows any of the three symptoms, everyone in the household must self isolate and not come to school. The person with symptoms should arrange for a test as soon as possible.

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

• NHS Test and Trace was launched 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.

If a child or staff member tests positive for Coronavirus then they will need to self-isolate at home for 10 days following the guidance given—the rest of their family will also need to isolate. Siblings must not attend school for 14 days even if they are asymptomatic.

It is important that you inform the school if your child or a member of the household tests positive as we are then required to

Free School Meals (FSM)

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. However entitlement will also have other benefits including the reduction in price of some trips and visits. Children whose parents are getting any of the following are entitled to free school meals & benefits (FSM):

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190).
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

If you think you may be eligible please apply through the Devon Citizens Portal. This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. Alternatively, call the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

Alternatively you can call the school office 01392 255569 and Jackie or Sara will be happy to guide you through the process.

STAY & PLAY

Please use the following link to apply for Stay and Play after school childcare places.

[Click Here for sessions up until Christmas](#)

[Click Here for sessions from January 2021](#)

Please note there will be no Stay and Play sessions on the last days of term.

Friday 18th December

Thursday 31st March

Thursday 22nd July

Admissions Policy 2022-23

The draft admissions policy 2022-2023 for St David's Primary School is available on our school website

<http://www.stdavidsprimary.devon.sch.uk/website/admissions/27369>

The formal consultation period for this policy starts on 1 November 2020 and ends on 31 January 2021.

If you would like to comment on the proposed policy please send your responses to **stdavids@ventrus.org.uk** marking them clearly 'Admissions Policy 2022-23 Consultation' Thank you

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