



# St. David's C of E Primary School

## 11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer holiday and managed to enjoy the beautiful weather at the start of the holiday and spend some time with your wider family and friends. It is so lovely to welcome back all of our children to school as well as to welcome our new Reception children who have now begun their transition visits.

Getting to know the new routines in school this term will take a little bit of adjustment and we are all going to need to be a little patient and careful, but I am optimistic that things will progress smoothly.

The children have made a brilliant start; settling back in to class enthusiastically and meeting their friends with genuine pleasure. A positive aspect of the current government guidelines re Covid-19 is that we have the freedom to put in place routines that are most appropriate to our size, setting and situation and to flex them as term progresses. There will undoubtedly be changes as the wider situation evolves nationally and locally but we will endeavour to keep you updated.

Please can you ensure we have your up to date contact details as we use a range of communication methods (eg SMS text & Email). Teachers will use SeeSaw (Y1 -Y6) and Tapestry (Ruby Class) to set home learning tasks and notifications.

Children who have moved class will find they have a new login because their account has been reset, so please can you check that you can access and let us know if you have any problems.

Can we please remind you that any children who need to self-isolate but are not unwell are required to access their learning via SeeSaw - their teacher will ensure it is uploaded and checked each day so that they can keep up with the learning that is going on in school.

I hope that the reopening of schools has been a welcome return to something resembling normality for you and your family, and that you have a lovely weekend. Thank you for your continued support.

Fran Brincombe

Unfortunately, I have already been alerted to issues relating to unsafe and erratic driving close to our school by parents dropping off and picking up children. We also continue to have the ongoing issue of dangerous and illegal parking by parents at the start and end of the day.

It has been reported that there was a near miss outside the school on Wednesday morning involving a silver people carrier that was parked on double yellow lines in front of the blue garage. The driver narrowly missed a parent and child (seemingly oblivious that they were there) as it reversed and then accelerated away.

In addition, whilst greeting children in the playground this morning, I observed from a distance a number of parents park illegally on corners or on double yellow lines to drop off. The double yellow lines are there because there is limited visibility or another obstruction which makes it dangerous for cars to park there. I also observed a white car belonging to a KS1 parent (probably Emerald class) accelerating at great speed out of Dinham Rd. We all know that young children do not always look as they cross a road and if a child had rushed out at that point, it would undoubtedly have resulted in a serious accident or possibly worse!

We have a goodwill arrangement with St Michael's Church that allows parents to park in the area directly outside the church for a limited period if they are displaying a slip indicating they are dropping off/picking up. These slips can be obtained by emailing or calling the school office. Please note: this arrangement does not extend to Mount Dinham – so please do not park there. Now that the drop off times are staggered some of the parking problem should be alleviated. If your children are in Emerald or Diamond class, please aim to arrive for **9.05 – 9.15** (not earlier) so that parents from the first drop off (Ruby and Sapphire) will have vacated spaces.

It would also really help if those families who live close to school could walk, scoot or cycle – We regularly see children who live a few minutes away arriving by car. I appreciate we are all busy people but we all owe it to each other to take the care and attention necessary to ensure the safety of all our school community and our neighbours.

Thank you for taking the time to read this – hopefully it will resonate with you and we can work together to ensure the safety of our children.

### Ruby's Star Learner

**Year 1— Mina-Rose**—because she has settled so well after having a long time off school. She has made great improvements within her phonics and is always ready for learning. Well done Mina!

### Sapphire's Star Learner

**Year 3: Theo** has been a super star this week. He has enthusiastically participated in all activities. He has produced some lovely pieces of written work in English and Geography.

**Year 4: - Oscar** has returned to school with an enthusiastic and positive attitude to learning. He has been participating well in all activities in particular with PE

### Emerald's Star Learner

**Year 2 : Callum**—for settling back into school so well. It has been lovely to see Callum stepping up into his Year 2 role. He has been very enthusiastic about his learning this week! What a great start to Year 2! Well done Callum!

### Diamond's Star Learner

**Year 5: Laura** —has made a great start to life in her new class, working incredibly hard and having a fantastic attitude towards school life. Well done and thank you Laura!

**Year 6: - Szymon** has been hugely impressive this week, working at a really high standard in all the subjects and showing a mature and sensible side. Well done and thank you Szymon!

Our Christian values





# 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 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 follow a strict protocol.**

## **Entitlement to Free School Meals**

Thanks to a high publicity campaign initiated by the Manchester United footballer Marcus Rashford, Children in England who are eligible for free school meals will receive a six-week food voucher to cover the summer holiday period. The decision will provide around 1.3 million children with meals throughout the summer holidays.

If your personal circumstances have changed during the lockdown period you may find that you are now eligible. FSM vouchers provide £15.00 per child per week, so it is definitely worth checking if you are entitled.

You can check the criteria for **free school meals is on the government's website.**

If you think you are eligible you can then make a quick application online where your eligibility can be assessed immediately, and they will know straight away. You just need your National Insurance number and the system will be able to access your information.

Application can be done through the **Free School Meal Portal.**

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 booking form here to apply for Stay and Play after school child-care places.

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

### **Our Christian Values**

