

7th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our number one priority at the current time is keeping everyone safe, so that we all remain healthy and well. You have all clearly done a really good job of keeping yourselves, your children and your families safe over the last six months because our attendance last week was really strong. **Over years 1, 2, 3, 4 our attendance for the first three days of term was 94.7%.** Thank you for doing such a great job of following all the protective measures and hygiene controls so that so many of our children were healthy, well and able to return to our St. George's family last week. **Let's keep it up!**

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?								
If you need to cough or sneeze    <p>Catch it with a tissue</p> <p>Bin it</p> <p>Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser</p>			You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser      <p>After breaks & sport activities</p> <p>Before cooking & eating</p> <p>SCHOOL ETC.</p> <p>After using the toilet</p> <p>Before leaving home</p>					
 Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands			 Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles			 If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels		

At St. George's our aim is for everyone in our community to feel happy, confident and empowered and inspired to excel. Last week we certainly saw lots of happy, confident children enjoying being back at school, with their friends and teachers and we also saw lots of happy parents too! By making sure we all carry on following the new arrangements so well we can build on the very successful start we have made.

At the same time, we all know that the pandemic is not over and we must all carry on taking a sensible approach and all the necessary pre-cautions to lower the risk of infection rates increasing. Therefore we would like to take this opportunity to remind you all, that your child MUST NOT COME TO SCHOOL if:

- **You or any of your immediate family are feeling unwell and are showing any of the COVID-19 symptoms which are:**
 - **a new, continuous cough;**
 - **a high temperature or;**
 - **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.**



- You have had COVID-19 symptoms and are currently waiting for a test or test result;
- You have been contacted by 'NHS Track and Trace' and been advised to self-isolate;
- You or any member of your household has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days;

If you are not sure please ring school to check. We are not Doctors or epidemiologists but we can access further information and advice in order to give you the right guidance.

Drop off and collection arrangements:

The new morning and afternoon drop off and collection systems and arrangements we put in place worked well last week and thank you for supporting us by following the one way system and the staggered drop off and collection times. We know that for some of you, especially if you have other children attending different schools, the timings do not always coincide and you end up having to go from one school to another and back again. We realise that this is an inconvenience and are very grateful for the lengths you are going to drop off and collect your St. George's children on time.

We would just like to remind all parents that the 8.35am – 8.45am drop off slot is only for children in Years 3 and 4 and their younger siblings. This week we will be monitoring the times when younger children (without older brothers and sisters) are being dropped off and if necessary we will be in touch to remind you of the arrangements and the reasons they are in place.

Value of the month – COMPASSION:

As a Church of England School, our Christian Values underpin all that we do. Each month we explore one of our Christian Values and our value for September is 'compassion'. The value of compassion – putting ourselves in someone else's shoes and treating them as we wish to be treated - actually lies at the heart of all the major world religions and many different cultural traditions.



To be able to treat other people with kindness, respect, care and love it is important that we take care of ourselves and show self-compassion – this involves recognising how we are feeling and finding acceptable and effective ways of dealing with uncomfortable thoughts and feelings.

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Zones of regulation:

To support the emotional well-being and welfare of our children after what has undoubtedly been a challenging and difficult time we will be rolling out a programme called 'Zones of Regulation' with all the children in Years 1, 2, 3 and 4. Zones of regulation uses colours and pictures to help children identify how they are feeling, understand how their behaviour affects others and learn a range of tools they can use to manage their feelings in an okay way. The lessons will be delivered by Mr Rivett, Mrs Chadwick, Mrs Machin and myself throughout the term. All staff will be trained about the programme so that we all have the language and tools to help our children. We will share further details about the programme as we work through the sequence of lessons.

PE Days:

On days when your child has PE please ensure they wear their PE kit to school. This is a hygiene precaution so that other children and staff do not get too close together to help with changing. This table shows which class has PE on which day(s):

Class name	Teacher's name	PE day(s)
Chive	Mrs Browning	Monday and Thursday
Elderflower	Mrs Evans	Monday and Friday
Juniper	Miss Garrigues	Tuesday and Friday
Peppermint	Miss Round	Tuesday and Wednesday
Tarragon	Mr Abbott	Tuesday and Thursday
Thyme	Miss Haines	Thursday and Friday

When Nursery and Reception begin PE lessons we will let you know which days they are doing PE.

Reading Books/reading diaries:

Thank you to those of you who pointed out that there would be more opportunities to read with your child if you had their reading books at home at the end of the week and over the weekend.

You are absolutely right and as a result we have changed our arrangements. **From this week onwards, your child will bring their home reading book, library book and home reading diary on Thursday. You will then keep these books at home to read and enjoy together and return them to school on a Monday.** Your children will then

bring home a fresh reading book, library book and their home reading diary on the Thursday and so on. This system will mean that there are 72 hours between a book being returned to school and then being sent home again with a different child/family. The reason why we are implementing this system is that many books have plastic coated covers and it takes 72 hours for any coronavirus droplets to become undetectable on plastic surfaces.

We will be setting up our home reading reward systems again, so if for example, your child reads four times they will get four stickers/ticks/marks on the home reading chart

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in class. If your child reads on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday you are welcome to record this reading activity in their home reading diary when it is back in your possession and your child will be rewarded in school accordingly the following week.

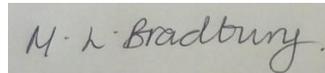
Pupil data sheets:

On Thursday we will also be sending home the data sheet which has all the key information we have on record about your child. It is vitally important that you check the information on this sheet to ensure it is correct and up to date. **If any of the information has changed please write the correct information on the sheet and return it to school by MONDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2020 so we can update our records. Please note, by law, schools are required to hold the contact details of 3 adults who can be contacted if there was an emergency.**

Communicating with your child's teacher:

We know many of you used to value the daily face to face contact you had with your child's teacher and some of you used the home reading diary as a way of communicating messages too. At the moment, we are not able to use these familiar ways to talk to each other. However, if you would like to speak to your child's teacher, we are happy to phone you or communicate via email. If you need to speak to your child's teacher please phone or email the office and your child's teacher will be in touch.

Kind regards,



Marie Bradbury - Headteacher