



Stanley St Andrew's

Church of England Primary School



The first few weeks back in school have gone really well and we thank you for your ongoing support. The general mood in school is that children are glad to be back with their friends and are enjoying the social interaction.

Staff spent the first week reminding children about the Covid safety measures in place and reinforcing social distancing guidance. Time has also been spent talking to the children about their experience of lockdown and how it may have affected their family, the local community and the world.

Staff have now carried out a range of assessments to find out where the children's gaps in learning are and have plans in place to address these. This information will be shared with you at the parent consultation meetings next week, which will be held using Microsoft Teams.

We want to complete parent consultations next week rather than waiting until after Easter to reassure parents following the return to school and allow you the opportunity to start working with your child during the holidays to help us to fill any identified gaps in their learning.

Thank you

Thank you to the staff and governors who have carried on in my absence. It has been an extremely tough time for staff remote working, school based working, responding to class emails, work emails and supporting our vulnerable families. On top of this, many staff have been home schooling their own children, supporting their own families and of course supporting each other. It has been lovely to have so many supportive emails from parents, messages and items for the staffroom that have been sent in.

Badges

Each child has been issued with a badge of hope to remind them of their belonging to our family. It has been great to see them wearing the rainbows with pride.

Mothering Sunday

Thank you to Liz Jackson for putting all the Mother's Day gifts together this year. It was lovely to get messages of thanks from our amazing mums.

Staffing updates

Exciting news

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Gresswell is expecting her first baby in September. We are really pleased for her and send congratulations to her and Mr Gresswell. We will be sharing this information with our children in order for them to help to keep her safe. So general reminders of not leaving things on the floor in the classrooms, corridors and reinforcing the walking rule around school. Can I also remind parents not to send children into school if they are ill and to inform us if your child has slap cheek, measles, chicken pox or any other illness that affect pregnancy. It is Mrs Gresswell's intention to work the full academic year and start her maternity leave in early September.



Illness

Mrs Rowles has been off work since December and is still unwell. We do have regular contact with her and we hold her in our prayers to be able to re-join the team very soon, as she is missed by all. Mrs Richardson has been covering the absence since December and we are very grateful to her for stepping up along with the rest of the Kingfisher team.

This term we have put in place Mrs Crabb, an experienced teacher who has done supply for us for many years. Mrs Crabb will be covering Mrs Rowles' two days and also supporting the work of staff with catch up projects. A huge welcome to Mrs Crabb who has quickly settled into school life and adopted our school values.

Leaving

Mrs Adshead will be leaving school at the end of this term. She has worked here for over 15 years and has been an integral part of the team. Her love of mathematics and anything arty will always be a lasting memory for many of us. Mrs Adshead has not decided what she is going to do next but I am sure she will continue to enjoy gardening and cycling. Rather than a leaving gift, Mrs Adshead has requested a donation to a charity close to her heart, supporting a local young person who is also a keen cyclist and who is battling with a brain tumour. We have set up a payment item on parent pay and if you would like to make a donation, you can do so there.



Reminders about Reporting COVID-19 Cases

Pupils, staff and other adults must not come into the school if they have one or more coronavirus symptoms;

1. high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back;
 2. a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours;
 3. 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;
- a member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has coronavirus or coronavirus symptoms;
 - they are required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area;
 - they have had a positive test. They must immediately cease to attend and not attend for at least 10 days from the day after:
 - the start of their symptoms;
 - the test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (whether this was a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test).

If any of the above apply, parents must contact school immediately, using the school email address: info@st-andrews-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk

This will help us to contact trace/isolate bubbles, if necessary.

This also applies for the first six days of the Easter holiday.



Microsoft TEAMS

We are using TEAMS to have parents meetings to discuss how children have settled back into school, to update you on the gaps in learning and to share with you the plan going forward. As usual please be patient as we have had some technical issues with running TEAMS due to the poor internet connection which BT are currently trying to sort out for us. If at any point the link drops out staff will try to telephone you back to complete the consultation or will reschedule the meeting. If you have a child with special educational needs you will also have an additional meeting in the new term to talk through their individual educational plan which again will be via TEAMS.



Red Nose Day

The school raised £103 for comic relief which is wonderful. The money will support some of the most vulnerable people in the UK and around the world. We are so grateful that the children were able to join in and help to turn lives around during this global pandemic.

ECO garden

A huge thank you to Mr Walters for maintaining the ECO garden during lockdown, it really is a beautiful place to be and I know that staff have plans for all children to go down and use the area next term. We look forward to the weather being slightly drier so that we will be able to go down and use the pond section that was developed last year.

External learning area

The governors continue to look at how we can enhance the school site to provide some additional learning areas for our children. This is very slow process and as we get updates from the local authority we will share this information. Over the Easter holidays we will be having a new fire alarm system, which we have been waiting a year for. In addition to this, we will also be having a new CCTV system fitted to ensure the safety of our building, children and staff. Many of you will also know that we have been struggling with the phone lines in school, which have been extremely poor. This will be upgraded during Easter holidays and will also mean that we will be able to make two calls at the same time! We hope that the ability to have a clear conversation with parents and other callers will help to improve communication across the board.

New panels

During the lockdown we have had issues with our interactive whiteboards, therefore we have had new panels installed in Kingfisher and Robin classroom which have made a huge difference. The panels are bigger and the resolution much improved from the old boards. The panels are still interactive and have been fitted with sound bars so it is a great improvement.

Early Years Equipment

Early years is having a mini make-over with new equipment that will encourage a range of learning skills. Mrs Gresswell and Mrs Fryer continue to review the provision and have ordered some rather exciting new toys and outdoor learning resources. We cannot wait for them to arrive and to be set up for the children to develop their learning experiences even more.

Update India

We had a phone call from Rig who is in charge of the Cathedral relief School in Kolkata to give us an update on how life is in Kolkata at the moment. Things are extremely tough and the children are not attending school due to Covid. Families continue to be scared to go out and generally only leaving home to go to the market for food. The children at Dum Dum are not in school and currently there is very little support in terms of work set or resources offered. We continue to support them wherever we can and hold them in our prayers.

Dates for your diary

Easter Holidays - Friday 2nd – Friday 16th April

Inset Day - Monday 19th April (open morning for prospective new reception parents 9.30 – 12 noon)

Summer Term 1 - Tuesday 20th April – Friday 28th May

Bank Holiday – Monday 3rd May

Half Term - Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

Inset Day - Monday 7th June

Summer Term 2 – Tuesday 8th June - Thursday 22nd July

Next Academic year 2021 – 2022

Inset days – Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd September

Autumn Term 1 - Monday 6th September – Friday 22nd October

Half Term - Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October

Autumn Term 2 – Monday 1st November – Wednesday 22nd December

Inset Day - Thursday 23rd December

Christmas Holidays - Friday 24th December – Friday 7th January

Spring Term 1 – Monday 10th January 2022 – Friday 18th February 2022

Half Term - Monday 21st February – Friday 25th February 2022

Inset Day - Monday 28th February 2022

Spring Term 2 – Tuesday 1st March 2022 – Friday 8th April 2022

Easter Holidays – Monday 11th April 2022 - Friday 22nd April 2022

Bank Holiday – Monday 2nd May 2022

Summer Term 1 – Monday 25th April 2022 – Friday 27th May 2022

Half Term - Monday 30th May 2022 – Friday 3rd June 2022 (Bank Holiday)

Inset Day - Monday 6th June 2022

Summer Term 2 - Tuesday 7th June 2022 – Friday 22nd July 2022