



Words from St. Werburgh's

Autumn term 1



DIARY DATES

****ALL DATES ARE PROVISIONAL IN LIGHT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC****

Friday 25th September	Non-uniform Day for Macmillan Coffee Morning
Friday 23rd October	School closes for half-term
Monday 2nd November	School re-opens
Friday 18th December	School finishes for Christmas
Tuesday 5th January 2021	School re-opens to pupils for the spring term
Friday 12th February	School closes for half-term
Monday 22nd February	School re-opens
Thursday 1st April	School closes for the Easter holiday



Love to learn, love God, love one another.

STAGGERED STARTS AND FINISHES

Our current Covid-19 control measures include staggered start and finish times and the use of two gates. Many thanks for following these procedures, as you know, the purpose of the different start times for different classes is to reduce risk and to help to keep children, staff and you, our lovely parents and carers nice and safe. Please do not arrive earlier than your child's class times as this will avoid you having to wait and therefore causing challenges to social distancing. Children will be dismissed in class sequence.

To stay safe when coming to school, please follow the one-way system, maintain social distancing, and tempting as it may be to have a chat with other parents/ carers, please make your way off the drive/path once you have dropped-off or collected.

Children will be met by staff at the relevant playground gate. **Parents/carers are not able to pass beyond these gates, nor enter the school site at this time.** If you need to speak to a member of the team, please telephone, or email, and if we are not available at that time, we will call you back.

The shorter school days at the start of term are part of our plans to support children's wellbeing as they return to school following the partial closure. Now that the children have started to become more accustomed to school again (and most are a little less tired in the afternoons), over the approaching weeks we are planning to extend the learning times within the school day. We will, of course, let you know the new extended times for starting and finishing and from when these will begin. Again, we will maintain staggered times at the two gates which enables social distancing and reduces risk and worry.

In the meantime, please continue to follow the current arrangements.



SMILE PLEASE

On Monday 21st September, our wonderful little stars in Reception class will be having a quick photo of the class which we hope will feature in the local newspaper's traditional section of new school starters.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOOOUUUUUUUU!

As we cannot celebrate birthdays during 'Praise and Celebration' at the moment, we would like to share our 'Happy Birthday' wishes (in our best singing voices) with the following children who have celebrated a birthday since the start of term and today (18 September).

Happy Birthday: Lily S., Sienna, Maddison B., Lydia-Rose, Edward, Madison S., Annabelle, Levi and Lexi...and to Mrs Price who turned 21 again!



WHAT CAN BE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL?

These can be brought into school:

PE kit in a separate bag (to leave in school). Lunch (unless having a school meal); healthy snack; drink bottle (containing water); returned reading/homework book (on specified days only); coat; optional small bottle of hand-sanitiser (parents must show children how to use this safely and responsibly and it cannot be shared with others); any necessary appropriate sanitary products; and a sunhat and suncream (weather dependent). All of these (PE kit aside) must be brought-in in a labelled plastic/carrier bag only (this can then be easily cleaned or disposed of to minimise risk).

Unfortunately, at the moment, these cannot be brought into school:

School bag, pencil case, teddies etc, book/magazine from home (not including school reading book), stickers/cards, any toys, mobile phones.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND WHAT TO DO

Coronavirus/Covid-19

Below is the latest NHS list of possible Covid-19/ coronavirus symptoms:

- High temperature (feel hot to touch on the chest or back);
- A new, continuous cough (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 of, or change to your sense of smell or taste – you've noticed that you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal,

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of the symptoms.

If your child does have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus: please get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible;

Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, or in your support bubble, must also stay home until you get your result.

If you are worried about your symptoms, or are unsure what to do, please use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service (<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>). If your child is under 5 years old, call 111 straight away.

Self-isolating

You'll usually need to self-isolate for 14 days if:

- Someone you live with, or in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive;
- You've been told to self-isolate by NHS 'Test and Trace'.

If your child has undertaken a test, please do not return to school until the results are known and shared with us.

Although this may seem a little frustrating, it is essential that we follow this as it is to protect your children, your families, our staff and our families.

For further (regularly updated) information on the virus, visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>



READING BOOKS AND HOMEWORK

Next week we will be writing to you with details of how homework and reading books will begin to come home and the safe processes we are putting in place for their return. The systems which we will use are, as we are sure you understand, subject to change as we constantly review processes in these unprecedented times. As the children have continued to settle into school life, we are planning this next important step.



KEEPING SAFE FROM COVID-19

We receive regular updates from Staffordshire Local Authority; our Health and Safety partners; Public Health England; and the Department for Education, to keep us up-to-date with any processes which we need to have in place to reduce risk. All decisions which we take as a school and Trust are based upon the safety of our children, family members, staff and Trustees, and we thank you for your ongoing full support of these decisions and the reasons behind them. Any relevant advice which we receive, we will share with you. By working together and following government advice, we can minimise the risk here at our school and amongst all of our families.

For further (regularly updated) information on the virus, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public> or

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For any other advice regarding Coronavirus (covid-19) please contact 111.



ART SHIRTS

Please could we ask if children could bring in an old shirt/t-shirt that is no longer needed, which can be kept on site (and will get covered in paint etc!) and used by them to cover their smart school uniform for Art lessons.

Y6 HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATION DEADLINE

Even though they have just re-joined us, the deadline for Year 6's high school applications is already upon us. Parents and carers of our fabulous older children should ensure that they have submitted applications **before 31 October**.

PRAYING TOGETHER

Our lovely Rev Sue and Josie have begun to publish services via YouTube. If you wish to share in prayer in the comfort of your own home, please visit: www.stwerburghschurchkingsley.org.uk

SCHOOL MEALS

The menu for school meals can be seen on our website: www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk/st-werburghs/school-family/parents Choices are subject to change on occasion. Should your child have any allergies, please speak to school as a matter of urgency. Here, you can also see if you are eligible to receive Free School Meals and the other benefits which this brings.

MacMillan Coffee Morning - Non-uniform Day

On **Friday 25th September** we will be fund-raising for the MacMillan Coffee Morning. In the current environment we have decided that we will offer a non-uniform day with any donations passed to this important cause. Please feel free to eat a big slice of cake at home to mark the occasion too!



MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

FAMILY WELLBEING

We contacted you to let you know of some brilliant family yoga sessions to help support with your wellbeing, led by one of the wonderful parents here at our lovely school and PE specialist, Caroline Holder. For further information, please visit the 'Parents' section of our school website:

www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk/st-werburghs/school-family/parents

In this section, you can also find ideas for mindfulness and a child's guide to Coronavirus.

Please stay safe.

...love one another.



THANK YOU

The entire school team would like to thank all of our parents and carers for your kindness, support and understanding during these challenging times and for helping us to keep one another nice and safe. Things are different and look like they will remain so for a while, and by each of us playing our part in such a warm school community, we are able to help each other through any difficult times.

...love one another.