



# Words from St. Werburgh's

Spring term 8



## DIARY DATES

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

Friday 12th February 2021	School closes for half-term
Monday 22nd February	School re-opens
Thursday 1st April	School closes for the Easter holiday
Monday 19th April	School opens for the summer term
Monday 3rd May	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
Friday 28th May	School closes for half-term
Monday 7th June	School re-opens
Friday 16th July	School closes for pupils



**Love to learn, love God, love one another.**

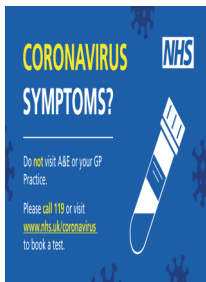
### A NEW TERM

We would like to start 2021 by sending our very best wishes to you and your loved ones. The government announcement on the evening before the first day of term may have brought disappointment as we all wanted to be back in school, however, we must do anything we can to reduce the risk of Covid-19. We were delighted to start live sessions/lessons early in the first week and to be in regular contact is wonderful. Working in this way is new to us all, but by supporting and regularly communicating with one another, we can continue your child's learning. Please let us know if we can help in any way and please look after yourself.

### COVID-19 SYMPTOMS - SELF-ISOLATION

Should your child, or any member of the household (or anyone your child may have been in contact with) display any symptoms of Covid-19, please do not bring them into school until any self-isolation period is fully complete. Should anyone in the household develop symptoms, please arrange a test as soon as possible. If your child has been in school the days prior to the test, or the days prior to the symptoms beginning, please let us know so we can follow our necessary procedures to minimise risk. If your child has been in school at any point this term and is now self-isolating, again, please let us know.

**Please stay safe.**



### A LITTLE HELPING HAND WITH MEALS

During this period, we understand that many families may have experienced a change in circumstances. Whichever year group your child is in, if you think that you may now be eligible for income-based Free School Meals, we would urge you to submit an application. This also applies to children who currently receive a lunch due to being in Reception, or Years 1 and 2. During this period of school closure, children who are eligible to receive income-based Free School Meals will have the option of receiving a hamper with food for a week's worth of lunches, or at a later date, possibly vouchers\* (\*to be confirmed).

To find out if you are eligible, or to apply for this additional support, please visit:

[www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals)

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOOOUUUUUUUU!

We may not all be together in school at the moment, but please join us in sharing our 'Happy Birthday' wishes (in our best singing voices) with the following members of the school family who celebrate a birthday between 4th January and today (15th January).

Happy Birthday: Sophia C., Alfred, Izzy, Kenzie, Molly, Bella-Rose, Madison W., Tiffany, Sam and Mr Casey.



## ADVICE ON HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE

As you may now be using online devices on a daily basis to support learning, or perhaps your child has received a Playstation, Xbox, Nintendo Switch, tablet, laptop, mobile phone etc for Christmas, we are sure that you will agree that it is essential your child is safe in the online world. Therefore, we wanted to share some e-safety advice.

### **6 essentials to keep your children safe online**

Follow this list to help keep your children safe online:

**Use parental controls** to block upsetting or harmful content, control in-app purchases, or manage how long your child spends online. They're really easy to set up too. More information about setting controls on mobiles, tablets, home broadband, games consoles, apps, wifi, films, music and TV is on the [NSPCC web pages](http://www.nspcc.org.uk), ([www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)) and there's a useful helpline number too.

**Regularly remind your children not to give out personal information**, like their address, phone number, school name or email address. It can be easy to forget with live streaming videos (like YouTube) that anyone could be watching, and it's important not to give away too much information about themselves.

**Get to know the games, apps and social media sites they use.** Learn how to use them yourself and how their 'privacy', 'block' and 'reporting' settings work.

**Make sure they know that people aren't always who they say they are online** and that they don't accept friend requests from people they don't know (even if the person has mutual friends, it doesn't mean they can be trusted).

**Talk about the risks of sharing photos** online or sending them to others. Once they're out there, they're out there!

**Let them know that you're listening** and want to know if anything at all makes them feel uncomfortable online, no matter what.

Please also make yourself aware of the age restriction of certain social media platforms, for example **Whatsapp is for 16+**, **Snapchat is for 13+**, and **TikTok is for 13+**.

Please also be aware of the content of online gaming, for example, **Fortnite is rated as suitable for 12+**.

**These controls are to there to simply keep your child safe in the online world.**

### **Need to know more?**

These are the places you can find good advice and guidance:

**NSPCC** ( [www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/) ) great for easy-to-follow parental control guides and knowing what to talk about;

**Think u know** ( [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) ) great if you're concerned, need to understand social media or are worried about online abuse;

**Staffordshire Police** ( <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/police-forces/staffordshire-police/areas/staffordshire-police/campaigns/2019/cyber-bullying/> ) explains cyber bullying and online harassment;

**internetmatters** ( [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org) ) great for cyberbullying advice;

**CEOP Child exploitation and online protection command** ( [www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre) ) - if you suspect abuse report it to one of their specialist advisers now.

Advice on keeping children safe can also be found on our school website, [www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk)

We hope you find the above information useful, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact a member of staff.



