



Words from St. Werburgh's

Autumn term 1



DIARY DATES

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

Friday 22nd October	School closes for half-term
Monday 1st November	School reopens
Friday 17th December	School closes for the Christmas holiday
Wednesday 5th January 2022	School reopens for the spring term
Friday 18th February	School closes for half-term
Monday 28th February	School re-opens
Thursday 7th April	School closes for the Easter holiday



Love to learn, love God, love one another.

WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME

We are absolutely delighted to welcome you to the new school year here at St. Werburgh's C.E. Primary.

The last two years have provided many challenges across the world and indeed in education, however, we are really proud of how the children have adapted to these and how amazing they have been throughout. We are also incredibly proud of you, the parents/carers, for your support of your child's education. None of us know what this year will bring, but we do know that the children will have the opportunity to grow as learners and young stars, showing everyone that they are brilliant members of our school and wider community/ Parish. As a team, we thank you in advance for your understanding, patience and support during the year - it is very much appreciated, especially in these challenging times and during the current period of positive cases in school.

It is our pleasure to welcome some new superstars to our school family this term: Kyah, Zach, Stanley, Kodie, Toby, Tommy, Emma, Ophelia-Rose, Bodie, Oakley, Tom, Vesper, Sebastian, Samuel, Isabella-May, Daniel, Rupert, Matthew, Finn, Stanley, Skyla, Matthew, Charley, Alfie, Oscar, Thomas, Ben, Chloe, Frankie and Lottie.

We are also happy to welcome Miss Jewell (Year 4 Class Teacher) and Mrs Corby (Learning Support Assistant) to our teaching and learning team and know that you will make them feel welcome in their new roles.

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IT'S A BOY!

It is with great happiness that we share the news that Miss Bullock has welcomed a new baby boy into her family. Oscar was born towards the start of the holiday and mother and new son are both well and enjoying sharing late night and early morning feeds!



GOOD LUCK, MISS VARLEY

Our lovely school cook, Miss Varley, has today headed off for an exciting event... the start of her Maternity Leave! We are sure that you will join us in wishing her and her family the very best of luck as they prepares for their latest arrival.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOOOUUUUUUUU!

We love to celebrate birthdays in school during our in-class, virtual 'Praise and Celebration' on a Friday. Please tune-in your best singing voice and join us in celebrating with the following children who have enjoyed a birthday from the start of term to Friday 17th September.

Happy Birthday: Lily S., Isabella-May, Sienna, Lydia-Rose, Charley W., Edward, Finn, Madison S., Annabelle, Levi, Lexi and Mrs Price.



WRAPAROUND

Our friends at Kingsley Kingfishers have recommenced wraparound care in the mornings and afternoons. If you wish to book-in your child, please contact them directly on 07891 861763, or kingfisherspresch@googlemail.com

SMILE PLEASE

Our wonderful little stars in Reception class will be having their first class photo which we hope will feature in the local newspaper. If your child is a member of the class, please keep an eye open for details from Miss Hickman.



SAFE AND COURTEOUS PARKING

Please can we remind those who drive to school with children to park safely and responsibly and only remain parked for as long as is necessary.

Children will leave school at their stated class times and those who have brothers and sisters in other classes will both leave at the latest available time - please don't arrive until your child's/ children's designated finish time to reduce the traffic around school and to avoid you waiting for them on site. May we urge you to not stop on the zigzags - these are there to keep children safe. Similarly, please do not double park, or park on the bend as this creates risks for others. Many of our parents and carers walk to school with pushchairs - please check that if you do park by the pavement, you have left enough room for a pushchair, pram or wheelchair to pass your car safely. We are very lucky to have great neighbours to school - please continue to respect them and their driveways and entrances to their property. The small car park across the road from the front of school is **not** a public, or school car park, it is the homeowners' driveways. Parking there is the same as someone parking on your drive at home, which none of us would like.

By parking a little further away from school, you will have a few extra minutes chatting with your child as they begin and end the day and also promote a spot of healthy exercise.

JEWELLERY

Just to remind that no jewellery is to be worn for PE, swimming or after-school sporting clubs. This includes watches, fitness trackers, earrings and earring retainers.

YOUR PTA

Your brilliant PTA are a dedicated group who create many fund-raising opportunities for the children. Despite the challenges of the last two years, the PTA have remained busy fund-raising and spending money on the children. The PTA are always looking for new members and we will let you know when we have the chance to meet again.

We now have a text messaging service for parents/carers of children aged 0-19 who live in Staffordshire.

Get advice from our Public Health nurses (Health Visitors and School Nurses).

TEXT: 07520 615722



Feeding and nutrition



Child development

Parenting advice and support



Emotional health and wellbeing

Behaviour difficulties

Family health

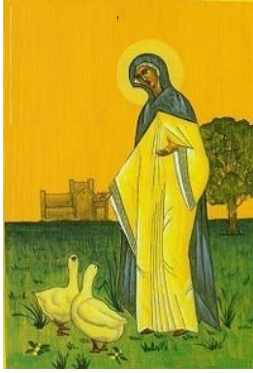
We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other health care staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate message back to confirm we have received your text. Texts will only be seen between 9am and 5pm. If you need help before you hear back from us contact your GP, nearest walk in centre or dial 111. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messages from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). To prevent the health visitor from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.

YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

If you wish to speak with your child's teacher, please send them an email to the class email address, or call 01538 702355 (opt1).

RECEPTION CLASS CHANGE

Just a quick reminder to the parents and carers of the youngest stars in our school, that **from Monday 20th September**, Reception children should be dropped off and collected from the double gates at the top of the drive at the back of school (the ones near to the railings which you have been using). The children have settled in brilliantly and we are sure that, with your help, they will adapt to this little change too.



SCHOOL MEALS

The school meals menus are on our website:

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

Here, you can also see if you are eligible to receive Free School Meals and the other benefits which this brings. Choices are subject to change on occasion. Should your child have any allergies, please speak to school as a matter of urgency.

THE CAR PARK

Please can we remind all that the car park is still for **staff only**.

As the car park entrance will be in use as a pedestrian entrance, it will also be closed to vehicles for a period of time both in the morning and afternoon.

SCHOOL MEAL - MENU CHANGE

Over the next few weeks, we have been advised by Chartwells, the organisation who provide school meals, that there will be a temporary reduction to the menu. From Monday 20th September, there will be one main meal choice, with the alternative/vegetarian option being put temporarily on hold due to their food and staffing shortages. Of course, in addition to the main meal, children will continue to also be able to choose from a jacket potato with a choice of filling (butter, cheese, beans, or tuna mayo), or a sandwich (ham, cheese, or tuna mayo). Apologies for this change and hopefully they will be back to a full menu soon.

SAFETY ON SITE

May we thank you for ensuring that no dogs are brought onto the school grounds at any time, so we can enable the children to feel safe and reassured at their school.

Thank you for setting a good example to children by not smoking or vaping on school grounds.

HOLIDAYS AND TERM DATES

You can see all term dates, on our website:

www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk

Please do not book holidays during term time as you risk receiving a penalty notice from the Local Authority if your child does not attend school.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND WHAT TO DO

Coronavirus/Covid-19

Below is a 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. We have also been advised that the virus could present itself in children as an upset stomach, or headache.

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus: please arrange for a PCR test as soon as possible.

The person displaying symptoms should stay at home until the results have been returned. Should the result be positive, then it is essential that the infected individual self-isolates as per the government guidelines and does not attend school, or come onto the school site.

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.

If your child has symptoms and has undertaken a test:

please do not return to school until results are known and shared with us.

The current governmental guidelines state that children who are close contacts of a positive Covid-19 case no longer need to self-isolate. However, it is recommended (and strongly encouraged) that if they have been a close contact, then they do take a PCR test. Of course, if your child is unwell, please keep them off school until they feel better - even if they have returned a negative result.

Although this may seem a little frustrating, it is essential that we protect the children, your families, the staff and our families. For further (regularly updated) information on the virus, visit:

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

KEEPING COVID-SAFE

Unfortunately, as you know, we have been affected by a number of positive cases of Covid-19 in school in the short time since we returned. We have seen multiple cases across three classes and have been advised by the Local Authority team that we are at 'outbreak' point. To reduce cases, school and home must work together.

In school, at the start of term government guidelines changed for us all. We maintained a range of Covid-safe measures and have now also reintroduced others. With us facing the current situation, we ask that anyone coming onto the school site to drop-off, or collect children, wears a face covering and remains socially distanced. We appreciate that these are no longer considered necessary in public, but in your school we want to keep children, you, our staff, and all of our families safe and this will go some way towards doing so. Please help us to protect one another.

If your child displays any symptoms of the virus, do not send them into school. Please arrange for a PCR test and keep them at home until the result is known. If the test is positive then they must self-isolate in accordance with government guidelines and we need to know the outcome so we can follow our procedures in school. If they are negative (fingers crossed), please then keep them at home until they feel better, then they may return.

As you know, we are currently not allowing toys, teddies, pencil cases, certificates, etc to be brought into school and you have received details of what is permitted - many thanks for your support with this (if you are unsure is something can come into school - please ask). If your child has received a certificate which you wish to share with their class, feel free to email a photograph to your child's class email account. In school, we have returned to many of the 'bubble' procedures of last year, which means that the children will not freely mix between classes either inside or outside. Staff have also returned to wearing face coverings in communal indoor areas. Currently, only essential visitors are coming into the school building. If you are sending-in birthday treats for other members of your child's class, these will need to come into school at least 72 hours before they are shared, so they can be quarantined.

Parents/carers should continue to bring and collect children to and from the school gates (unless in our older year groups and you have given permission for them to walk alone) where they will be met by staff. If your child is arriving or leaving at other times to this, please come to the main entrance - but wear a face covering. From Monday 20th September, Reception children will need to be dropped and collected at the school double gates and not the railings. Please can you also support us by ensuring that your child's school bag is wiped clean when arriving home and when departing for school.

If your child is isolating at home, their class teacher will send school work to be completed each day and returned, so they can continue their learning.

Just as you, we hope that these measures will continue to reduce transmission throughout school and we thank you for your understanding that although the guidelines may change, we will also make decisions based upon our school staying safe. We are in regular contact with the Local Authority Covid Outbreak Team and are working with them to try to minimise transmission. As you can appreciate, at this time, plans, lessons, events, meetings, meals and many other things may alter, even at very short notice, and we thank you in advance for your support and understanding.

We all hope that the number of cases falls soon and even disappears, but to help it to do so, we all need to play our part in being vigilant. Please stay safe.

THANK YOU

The team would like to thank all of you for helping your child to settle so wonderfully into school life at the start of the new term. They have been amazing! We also thank you for your support and understanding as we continue to work within a period of 'outbreak' of positive Covid-19 cases. The staff team feel special to be a part of such a caring school family and the messages of goodwill during the unusual start to the school year from so many parents and carers have been very warmly welcome.

Please continue to take care of yourself and your loved ones.
Thank you again.



...love one another.