



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 26th June 2020

I would like to start by recognising all of our families for their continued efforts in helping with the fight against Covid-19. Whether you are a key worker, home schooling, have been shielding or self-isolating or volunteering to help those in need within our community...THANKYOU! There is no denying that this has been a very strange time for us all, but hopefully we will soon be able to get back to our new normal!

Return to School

School has been open to key worker children since lockdown began. Over the past couple of weeks we have seen an increase in these numbers and we have now reached our maximum capacity based on current social distancing requirements. We have had a lot of key worker parents contact us over the past few days asking for places. Unfortunately we are not in a position at the moment to accept any more children, however we do have a waiting list and we will make contact if we are allowed to go above the numbers stated in our risk assessment which was agreed by the LA and Trade Unions.

We have also reached our maximum capacity for Nursery, Reception Year 1 and Year 6. Again, we have a waiting list and will contact parents if more spaces become available before the end of the school year.

Father Michael has kindly agreed to open and close the Church car park for parents to use as the George Howarth Centre Car Park is closed, Please either walk the whole way to school if you live locally OR park and walk from nearby roads or the Church car park if you drive. We do not have space for cars to park on the road leading to school....we will be asking parents to move their cars if they are parked on here! This is purely in the interest of health and safety, the last thing we want is for an accident to occur due to too many cars in one area.

All parents whose children have a place have now been informed.

Free School Meal Vouchers

The Government has announced that they will continue to issue vouchers to parents whose children receive means tested free school meals over the summer holidays. So, all parents who get them now will continue to get them over the summer. You do not need to do anything to get these, school will sort this out as we have been doing since April.

When I look on the Wonde voucher system, there are still some parents who have not redeemed their vouchers. I would urge you to do this as soon as possible in case they become void.

End of Year Reports

Class Teachers have been working hard writing End of Year Reports for all of our children, Mrs Smith and myself will hand deliver them to your homes in couple of weeks. When you get your child's report you will notice that it looks very different from previous years, this is due to a lot of the assessment data we have for each child now being 'out of date,' We know that our children have all been working at different rates at home and that lots will have made huge progress over the past three months, so teachers have recorded and commented on where they were up to in March.

Year 6

I want to let our Year 6 children and parents know that we have not forgotten that this term should have been one of celebration and reflection.....not one of Lockdown and Fortnite!!! As a school we really want our Year 6 children to end their St Leo's and Southmead Journey in a memorable and joyous way, so we will be considering way in which we can do this safely before the end of July. Please keep an eye out on your Class Dojo page for more information regarding this.

Residentials

Due to the impact of Covid-19, we have not been able to go on our trips to Colomendy or London. We have re-arranged Colomendy for September, if it is not safe to go then we will look at a date later on in the year!

Our Year 6 children should have been travelling to London next week...we are so sorry that this has been cancelled and are sad that we have not been able to share in this wonderful experience together. When we deliver reports to your homes, we will also deliver an envelope which will contain a cheque for the amount that you have paid for the trip so far. If you currently owe dinner money to the school, we will deduct this from the amount to be refunded and give a breakdown of how this has been calculated.

Dinner Money

A lot of dinner money is still owed by parents of children in our junior classes. We will put a letter in with your child's report if you have a balance to clear. Please go to parent pay and try to reduce or clear these balances before the end of the school year. All unpaid balances are transferred to the school for us to pay and ultimately the children lose out as this is money we would much rather spend on their education! Thank you for your support with this.

School Uniform for September

As it stands, we are fully expecting to be open for all children to return to school in September, but please remember that this could change based on national and local infection rates. If you need a new school tie for your child, you will be able to buy one from school during the first week back. Children should wear sensible black shoes. In the past we have stated that trainers are NOT allowed at all, however from September we will allow completely black trainers to be worn....please note that this does not mean 'MOSTLY' black! We would expect black sole as well as black upper with no white or coloured stripes, brand name or patterns.