



All Saints C.E Primary School

February 2021 Newsletter



As we start week five of this half term I just wanted to say well done to everyone since, at the start of the New Year, it was announced that the whole country would enter a third lockdown. I am incredibly proud of how well everyone seems to be coping during another very challenging time.

I am fully aware that parents are finding it very difficult just now and I completely empathise with you all. However, the government's message is that the vast majority of children should remain at home where possible and take part in the remote learning offer provided by school. Whilst schools continue to be safe for children, the intention is to reduce the increase in the COVID cases in our own community, easing the pressure on the NHS and hospital places.

We know that the current situation has created a level of uncertainty and anxiety for all. Although your child might not have a place in school at the moment, I would like to reassure you that there is support available. Therefore, please do not hesitate to contact school if you wish to speak to someone.

It was also announced last week that schools will not start to fully reopen until at least Monday 8th March 2021. Further communication will be sent out once we receive additional clarification from the government.

Home Learning

Thank you so much to everyone who has worked hard at home in guiding and supporting their children's remote learning. There has been an incredible amount of effort and we are grateful for all you have achieved to date.

We know what a challenge it must be - balancing your own workload, online learning, availability of IT equipment, more than one child needing to use the same device, getting used to Class Dojo and Google Classroom, passwords ... the list is endless!

Please remember to be kind to yourselves - you cannot be all things to all people and we know you will be trying to do the best you can to support your children at home.

As well as posting work and videos on Class Dojo, teachers have also started to deliver some live sessions for the children who are continuing to learn from home. Staff have been really pleased with the number of children in their class who have joined the live sessions and have received positive feedback from parents about the sessions. They have reported to me that they have enjoyed delivering them and that the children enjoy having the opportunity to have virtual face-to-face interaction with their teacher as well as being able to see their friends.



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I would like to take this opportunity to ask parents to ensure that their child is appropriately dressed for the live sessions and ready to take part in the learning. It is also important that parents have read and understood the Virtual Learning Agreement and have given consent for their child to take part in the live sessions. Parents can either provide written or verbal consent or message the class teacher via Class Dojo.

I know that a number of parents prefer a paper pack and find them useful to run alongside the online posts. These will continue to be available for collection on a weekly basis. The work provided in the packs is intended to be used throughout the whole week (or ready for the following week if collected on a Thursday or Friday).

Packs can be collected from the main school office (unless the class teacher informs you differently) on the following days:

- Nursery - will be available from **Thursday pm**
- Reception - will be available from **Monday am**
- Year 1 - will be available from **Thursday pm**
- Year 2 - will be available from **Monday am**
- Year 3 - will be available from **Monday am**
- Year 4 - will be available from **Tuesday am**
- Year 5 - will be available from **Friday am**
- Year 6 - will be available from **Tuesday am**



If you do require a paper pack would you please message the class teacher via Class Dojo or phone school to request that one is prepared for you.

The staff are all working incredibly hard to plan and deliver face-to-face teaching, remote online learning and provide paper packs. As you can appreciate the workload for them has increased but they will endeavour to provide work for the children on a daily basis for online learning and weekly basis for paper packs.

The Government has placed a clear expectation that teachers should be monitoring the work completed at home and make senior leaders aware of those who do not engage.

At All Saints class teachers carry out daily checks on children's engagement with remote education via children logging in to Class Dojo or joining the live sessions. If you are working on the printed packs rather than online, please let the class teacher know via Class Dojo or when you speak to them so that they can make a note.

If there is a concern around engagement, class teachers will telephone parents/carers in the first instance. If engagement does not improve, the Pastoral Lead (Miss Simmonett) will make a call offering further support and guidance. This conversation will be logged in our safeguarding records. Should there be no engagement for over a week, I will be contacting the parent/carer directly.

If you don't have access to a device or are without internet connection, please contact school. We are able to allocate a Chromebook on a loan basis. Parents are required to sign our Loan Device Agreement.

If you are struggling with internet connection we have a number of BT Wi-Fi vouchers that we can give to families. In order for these to work you need to be located near a BT Hotspot. If you think you would benefit from this please let us know.



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Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Tests for staff

Staff in school are now carrying out weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests at home. The purpose of staff being asked to take them is to try and manage the COVID-19 infection rates. Approximately 1 in 3 individuals are asymptomatic when they contract COVID-19 and it is believed that the use of regular LFD tests amongst staff will help to identify those who may be positive for the virus and are still infectious, yet do not display any symptoms.

Staff at All Saints will take the LFD test twice weekly - Sunday evening and Wednesday evening. If the LFD test provides a positive result, members of staff will inform me. A positive result from a member of staff will require me to close the bubble with which they are associated.

'Well Done to...'

Every Friday, weekly certificates have been awarded to the children in each class. Some of the recipients are currently in school so the certificates are presented to the children in class. For those children who are accessing the learning from home they receive their certificate in the post.

We say a huge "Well done" to the following children who received a certificate during January:

Year Group	EYFS/KS1 Mathematician of the Week and KS2 TT Rockstar of the Week	Home Learning Hero	Fitness Fanatic
Nursery	Darcie, Peter, Nala-Grace, Deacon, Luna (all for Dojo Champion)	Daisy, Zack, Poppy	
Reception	Mina	Luca, Carter, Lana	
Year 1	Zoe, Vivienne	Vivienne, Erin, Zoe	Evie Bruce
Year 2	Adam, Jack E-B, Matilda	Dexter (x2 weeks) Willow	Heidi Pearl
Year 3	Ruben, Rayyan, Marcy, Layton	Melody, Amelia, Zhuowen	
Year 4	Jamie (x2 weeks), William, Madison, Belle	Jayden, Amy, Emma	
Year 5	Harry C, Yousif (x2 weeks), Eliza, Zac, Skye	Kiah, Alexander, Holly C	
Year 6	Maison, Leila, Dominic, Bailey, Daniel, Max	Chelsea, Leila, Zach	Anna-Lise (x2 weeks) Kaleb (x2 weeks)

Parent Governor Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy for Parent Governor at All Saints. The nomination packs have been given out or posted to all families. Should you wish to put your name forward for consideration, please fill in a Nomination Form and then return it to school by 12noon on Tuesday, 9th February 2021. Please refer to the attached pack for more information about the role of governor as well as the nomination process.



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Children's Mental Health Week

This week is Children's Mental Health Week, and the theme this year is 'express yourself'. By talking openly about mental health from a young age, children can learn to better understand their emotions, break down stigma, and feel safe enough to reach out for help when it is needed.

Talking about mental health and expressing our feelings can be difficult, no matter our age. As we find ourselves in the middle of another lockdown, it is more important than ever to share how we are feeling with others.

This week teachers have planned some activities that focus on mental health and wellbeing. We will also be introducing 'Wednesday Wellbeing' afternoons, providing further activities to motivate and excite our children over the next few weeks. Keep an eye out for further information about this on Class Dojo. To mark the end of Children's Mental Health Week we would like to invite the children in school and at home to 'express yourself' by dressing in clothes of their choice.

Emergency Contact Details

If there have been any changes in your contact details (email addresses, house move or mobile number change) please phone or email school and let Ms Cartmill or Mrs Feeney know as soon as possible. It is important that our records are up to date so that school can contact you in an emergency as well as keep you in touch with any important Government information.

Dates for your diary

February	
Wk/b Monday 1 st	Children's Mental Health Week 2021 - 'Express Yourself'
Friday 5 th	'Express Yourself' own clothes day
Friday 12 th	School closes for Half Term
Monday 22 nd	School reopens depending on government policy
March	
Friday 26 th	School closes for Easter
April	
Monday 12 th	School reopens depending on government policy

Remember - Please do not hesitate to contact school if you would like some support with anything or wish to discuss something.

In the meantime I hope that everyone continues to follow the rules in order to stay safe and well.

R Dickinson (Acting Headteacher)



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