



ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

At St George's, God calls us by name to love,
learn and achieve together, safe in the palm of His hands.

'I have called you by your name; you are mine' Isaiah 43



Eagle Way, Shoeburyness, Essex SS3 9RN.

Telephone: 01702 293522

Email: office@st-georges.southend.sch.uk Website: www.sgcps.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs A. Delgado

newsletter no.348 ~ 11th September 2020

To our wonderful parents and community,

What an amazing first week back!

It has been a wonderful to get back in to the 'normal' school routine; I think we have all missed it! No doubt there will be some very tired children (and staff!) at the end of school today. I would just like to thank EVERYONE for playing their part in ensuring a very smooth first week back. The staff have ensured that the children's well-being is a priority and supported children and their families with new routines. The children have come in very keen to learn and have loved being back with their friends. The parents and carers have been ensuring the children are on time, with everything they need. I have no doubt this will continue throughout the term and year and I thank you in advance for your support.

Welcome!



We welcomed our first 10 reception children on Wednesday morning.

Katie, Megan, Dalton, Olivia, Vinnie, Edward, Alexander, Addilyn, River-Jane and Dillon

We hope that the children and their families enjoy seven happy years at St George's.

I know that the children will grow and thrive, spiritually, academically and personally during their time here. We look forward to getting to know all the new children and their families ~ even if you have been here before!



Part of Assisi Catholic Trust limited by guarantee in the Diocese of Brentwood, registered in England and Wales.

Registered number 7696989.

We also welcomed **James** and **Teddy** to our St George's family on Monday. I cannot believe how quickly they have settled in and made friends – it feels like they have always been here!

School drop off and pick up

Due to the punctuality of parents and carers, we are slightly altering the drop off and pick up times to reduce the time in between different year groups. The new times are:

Years 1, 3 & 5 – 8.40am drop off – 3.10pm pick up (gates will open at 3.05pm)

Years 2, 4 & 6 – 8.45am drop off – 3.15 pick up (access to playground from 3.10pm)

Reception – 8.50am drop off – 3.20pm pick up (access to playground from 3.15pm)

I am sure many of us have seen, on the news, the rise in cases in the UK recently. Could I ask that parents follow the social distancing guidelines to keep us all safe:

- Please keep a 2m distance from other people who are not part of your household
- Please do not congregate, or gather, once the children have come into school. We have 60-90 households that we need to get through each of the different entrances and by chatting at the entrances, you are increasing the number of contacts for all families, including your own.
- Please keep pre-school children with you at all times, as they may be unable to socially distance.

Although the staff and children do not wear masks at school, parents/carers who feel more comfortable with a face covering when collecting or dropping off their child can wear them.

Just a reminder to parents and carers that children **MUST NOT** be on the adventure playground or trim trail at the beginning or end of the school day as we cannot supervise them. I thank you in advance for your support.

Reminder ~ hats

Please ensure your child comes to school every day with a school hat. Children may have to sit under cover during their social times if they forget their hats, which will unfortunately result in them missing time with their friends.

Breakfast Club and After school club

Our breakfast club and after school club commences from Monday. Don't forget, you can book anytime up to the day before. Unfortunately we cannot accommodate children who have not been booked in.

Breakfast club runs from 7.30am – start of school day ~ £3.50 (breakfast is provided)

After school club runs from finish of school day:

until 4.45pm ~ half session £7.00

until 6.00pm ~ full session £10.00

(the children will need to bring a 'packed tea' with them which we can refrigerate)

We accept childcare vouchers and further information can be obtained from Mrs O'Shea. Sessions are now available to book via WisePay up to 18th December 2020.

Dates for your Diary

Key dates can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Reminders - P.E. Days

From this term, we ask that the children attend school dressed in their P.E. kits on the day they have their timetabled P.E. sessions. They do not need to bring any change of clothes with them, they will stay in their kit all day, but we do ask they are appropriately dressed for the weather (e.g. plain jogging bottoms and red sweatshirt/school jumper, if it is cold). The timetable is as follows

Monday – Year 1 P.E. day
Tuesday – Year 5 & Year 6 P.E. day
Wednesday – Year 2 & Year 3 P.E. day
Thursday – Year 4 P.E. day

Reception class will confirm their P.E. day once all the children are in school.

Home reading and homework

The children will begin to bring home their school reading books from Monday onwards. To ensure the safe transfer of books from home to school and between different children, it is vital that your child brings their books in on their reading day. To positively encourage reading at home, the reading reward system will continue from **Monday 21st September**. Over the course of this year, there will be the opportunity for your child to earn certificates of achievement, once they complete a certain number of reads with a relevant comment by a parent or adult that your child has been reading to. As the children move into Years 5 and 6 and become more independent readers, this comment may be written by your own child around what they particularly enjoy, or a word or phrase that they needed to check the meaning of.

Each class teacher will keep a track of parent/child comments, and will ensure that once 50 (Bronze), 100 (Silver), 150 (Gold), 200 (Diamond) and 250 (Super Reader) are completed, a reward will be given in our weekly celebration assembly. It would be fantastic to award every child in the school at least one certificate. Happy reading everyone!

Homework will be online during this year. The staff will put the tasks on their class page with details of where to log on etc. If your child is unable to access a computer, laptop or tablet to complete their work, please email the office FAO Mrs Wallen as soon as possible.

Parent Information Sessions

At the beginning of every year, meetings are organised so that class teachers can share vital information about the year ahead. As we are unable to have large numbers of parents and

carers in school, there will be an information slideshow on the school website (click on your child's class page). We hope you find this useful.

This term's parent consultations will take place week beginning 28th September. All meetings will be conducted via google meet. Parents will have to book their time slot via the website (from Monday 21st), and then the class teacher will send you an invite link via email.

First Head Teacher Awards of the Year!

Well done to all the children recognised for their achievements this week.

Iris-Ivy ~ (St Therese) ~ for a fantastic start to year one. Well done on your enthusiastic attitude to every activity.

St Elizabeth Class ~ for settling back in to school life so well and for showing great enthusiasm to try their best in everything they do! Keep it up Year 2!

Oliver ~ (St Bernadette) ~ for persevering and trying really hard this week, particularly when overcoming challenges in maths. What a fantastic start to the year Oliver!

Grace ~ (St Joseph) ~ for showing real desire to learn and produce some amazing writing in our English lessons. Keep it up, Grace!

James ~ (St Anthony) ~ Welcome James to St Anthony Class! Your bright smile and wonderful work ethic are already a great asset to our class.

Natalia ~ (St Peter) ~ for a fantastic first week in Year 6. You have shown great focus, determination and enthusiasm in all subjects this week. Keep up the amazing work!

Sports Awards

We have only been back a week, and already we have a Sports Improver!

Mia (St Bernadette) worked unbelievably hard in PE ball skills this week and kept getting better throughout the lesson. Well done Mia!

Birthdays

Congratulations to everyone who has celebrated a birthday this week:

*Aviya and Ellie (St Francis), Beatrice (St Elizabeth), Mia (St Bernadette),
& Keavy (St Peter) and Mrs Pickford*

As you know many children bring in sweets to hand out to their class when it is their birthday. To keep our community safe, we will store any sweets or treats for 72 hours before handing them out. You are very welcome to send the sweets in earlier so they can be given out on the birthday itself.

Individual Photos

The school photographer will be in school on TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER to take individual and family group photos. This year we are unable to have pre-school children, or children from other settings, due to minimising contacts in the school.

RAINBOWS

If your child is struggling through a painful experience, or is experiencing anxieties for whatever reason, and you would like any further information on how we could support them, through group mediation, or individual sessions with a counsellor, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Delgado or Mrs Wallen



Pupil Premium/Free School Meals

The Pupil Premium Grant is available to help children from lower income families reach their full potential and to achieve higher academic grades at school.

We are able to check eligibility using a simple, secure and confidential online process.

Under this arrangement, schools receive funding for every pupil who meets the criteria for free school meals; so it is important for us to ensure that every child that meets the criteria is actually registered at the school so we can claim this money.

You meet the criteria if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income - related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after their employment finishes.

In order to determine whether you meet the criteria for the Pupil Premium Grant for your children, please complete the attached form and return it to the school office. However, only parent or carer details may be used to apply for this benefit. If you are unsure, please contact Mrs O'Shea in the office.

Prayers



We continue to keep all families in our thoughts and prayers.

Have a lovely weekend

God Bless,

Mrs Delgado

Medical matters

Children must be kept at home if they are unwell, especially if they have a temperature. It is impossible for the school to determine if a child has a cold, flu or another virus. This grid will help identify if a child should be kept at home or attend school. We always recommend that if you are in any doubt, contact NHS 111.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Most people with coronavirus have at least 2 of these symptoms.

Temperature			Coughing		Diarrhoea or sickness
	Notes	Should my child be in school?	Description	Should my child be in school?	Children must stay off for 48 hours since their last bout
36.4C	This is a normal temperature for children	Yes	A nervous cough/clearing of the throat	Yes	
37.5C	This is above the usual temperature you would expect for a child.	If you are able to monitor your child at home, this would be recommended.	A chesty cough resulting from allergens, asthma (or recovering from a cold/chest infection*)	Yes	
37.8C	This temperature shows there is a fever.	No	Coughing continuously for more than an hour Coughing regularly – 3 or 4 times a day Coughing for no other reason (not clearing throat) No mucus/phlegm or gooey stuff coming up when coughing	No	

Loss of smell or taste		Sore throat/runny nose/headache/muscle ache		
Notes	Should my child be in school?	Notes	Should my child be in school?	It is important to note that if a person has any of these symptoms, in addition to a raised temperature/ cough and loss of smell or taste, they must stay home, be monitored and then tested if there is no improvement
Changes in sense of smell are most often caused by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a cold or flu • sinusitis (sinus infection) It is also a symptom of Coronavirus.	Yes	Sore throat – this is not a common symptom in isolation. Ensure your child has plenty of water and tissues if they need to clear their throat	Yes , if they have no other symptoms such as a temperature, cough or loss of smell or taste.	
		Runny nose – As above. Ensure they have plenty of tissues to blow their nose and remind them to put it in the bin.		
		Headache – This can be a symptom of dehydration. Ensure your child has plenty of water.		
		Muscle ache/fatigue – If there is no physical reason (sport, late night), it could be a cold, flu or other virus. We recommend that you keep your child at home and monitor them.		
Loss of smell taste is due to an allergy, like hay fever				

*School were made aware of infection by parent at the time ~ either by email, doctor's appointment/letter or proof of antibiotics.

Diary Dates

Further activities/dates will be added as soon as they have been finalised.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
Monday 14 th September	Breakfast and After school club begins
Tuesday 15 th September	Group 2 Reception start
Tuesday 22 nd September	Group 3 Reception start
w/b Monday 28 th September	Parent Consultations via Google Meet for Year 1 – 6
From Wednesday 7 th October	Parent Consultations via Google Meet for Reception
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 28th – FRIDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2019	
Friday 6 th November	Remembrance Assembly led by Year 6 available on website
Tuesday 10 th November	Individual school photos
w/b 7 th December	Reception Class Nativity Play & KS1 Nativity play available for parents on the website
w/b 14 th December	KS2 Christmas concert available for parents and carers on the website
Monday 14 th December	Non uniform Day for winning house team
Thursday 17 th December	Children's Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 18 th December	Last day of Autumn Term
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MONDAY 23RD DECEMBER – FRIDAY 3RD JANUARY 2020	