

St Mary & St John CE Primary School

Headteacher: Elizabeth Burton



Newsletter: school closure newsletter 7: 19.05.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well and safe and still coping. We are moving in the right direction. Albeit slowly.

I write with plans for the possible reopening of our school on **Monday 1 June, 1.06.20**. I will give you the headlines here and the children involved will get further specific information later in the week.

School will be open for the following year groups/classes:

Year 1: Willow

Year 1: Chestnut

Year 6: Lime

Year 6: Holly

It will also continue to be open for children in other year groups who are key workers' children or in a group specified by the government.

The following points are important:

- The safety of every adult and child in school is the highest priority and at the heart of every decision;
- Government guidelines have been followed carefully in our planning;
- Health and safety procedures will be adhered to, from appropriate signs to hand hygiene to regular cleaning;
- Children will be taught in a group of 15. Each class will be in two groups of 15 so children will be with some children from their class;
- Classrooms will be organised to keep children apart; the government acknowledge that maintaining a 2 - metre distance will not always be possible;
- Lunches will be packed lunches and offered to all year 1 children and other children in receipt of Free School Meals. All other children must bring a packed lunch from home;
- The start and finish times of the day will be staggered, and you will get details of this later in week. If you have children in different classes, please bring them all at the later time;
- Only one parent drops their child/children off at the gate and **NO PARENT/CARER CAN COME ONTO THE SCHOOL SITE AT ALL WITHOUT PRIOR APPOINTMENT**. We will collect the children from the gate;
- All break and lunchtimes will be staggered and in different outside areas to keep the groups of 15 at a distance;
- The school will **finish at 1.00 on Fridays for the first three weeks – 5.06.20; 12.06.20; 22.06.20** to allow teachers their entitled non-contact time;
- There will be no breakfast, after school club or after school activities;
- No parent will be penalised for deciding that they do not want their child/children to return on 1.06.20 if school does reopen. There may be medical or other reasons which make it safer to stay at home. We cannot get involved in these discussions and we ask you to make an informed decision with medical support if necessary.

This is obviously not the way I want to run a school but none of us wanted to be in a pandemic either. We've all made sacrifices. One thing I can promise; your children will get a warm, loving welcome and we will make it as much fun as we possibly can, given the restrictions.

Best wishes,
Liz Burton