

St. Thomas' School News

2nd October 2020

Events of the Week

Week beginning
05.10.2020

Message from the Headteacher

We celebrated the Harvest festival in a slightly different way this year. Class 5 went to Church on Monday and filmed a service with Rev. Janet that we shared with all the classes today. The children also went up to Church in their bubbles to take part in a Harvest Treasure hunt, organised by Rev. Janet. The food we have collected will be donated to the local foodbank at the end of next week.

Illness

It is important that everyone understands the guidance around illness.

If a child presents with any of the main three symptoms in school, they will be sent home and asked to follow self-isolation guidance and book a test. Siblings of these children will also be sent home in accordance with guidance.

In classes where a child or staff member has shown symptoms and been sent home (or not arrived in school if symptoms develop overnight) letters will be sent to parents informing them of a suspected case. School carries on as normal, unless a positive test result is confirmed.

If a positive test result is confirmed, the school will work with the Local Authority and Public Health to determine close contacts of the positive person. It is at this point that parents will be informed and bubble closures may happen, depending on the outcomes of the track and trace process.

Close contacts are tracked over the 48 hour period before symptoms developed in the positive person.

It is important that parents work with the school to keep us informed of illness and those isolating due to household members showing symptoms.

It is all quite complex, so if you do have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the school and we will answer your questions.

Children and staff with a high temperature, a persistent cough or loss of taste/smell cannot be in school until they have a negative test result or have isolated for 10 days from the start of symptoms.

Do not send your child to school if they are displaying one of the symptoms. This could put the class and their families at risk.

From the office...

School dinners

Please order school dinners for next week before midnight on Sunday.

School Website and School Spider App

Please refer regularly to our school website for all of the latest news, school calendar of events and weekly newsletter. You do not need to login to the website to see this information.

In addition it is essential that you download the school spider app from your app store. This is how we send quick messages and reminders to all of our parents. Thank you.

Reading

Most children will now have reading books. These should come into school every day, so that children can be heard read and their book changed.

Our big focus in school at the moment is catching up on missed education due to lockdown and reading is the priority.

Please support your child by reading with them frequently and by returning your child's book to school daily.



Parking

The staggered starts have made it less congested around school. However, there are a small minority of people who continue to park on the corner of Church Street, making it unsafe for pedestrians.

I am sure you would be the first to complain if it was your child injured due to the selfishness of the need to park as close to school as you can!

Please think before you park your car.

Online Learning

This week all children were given a letter outlining what we will do in the event of a bubble closure. This includes information about Zoom lessons for all classes. Please keep this letter safe. If you don't have the relevant information or equipment to access online learning and zoom calls, please contact the school office via email. Thank you.

P.E.

On P.E. days children come to school dressed in their outdoor P.E. kit with trainers on their feet.

Class 1	Tuesday and Wednesday
Class 2	Tuesday and Friday
Class 3	Tuesday and Wednesday
Class 4	Tuesday and Wednesday
Class 5	Wednesday and Friday

Children with long hair must have it tied back and all jewellery needs to be removed on these days.

Breakfast & After School Club

There are places available at both breakfast and after school club. Please enquire at the school office. Thank you.

Half Term Holiday

School closes at 3.30pm on Thursday 22nd October for half term holiday.

School reopens on Monday 2nd November.