

Autumn Term – w/e 9th October 2020

Dear Parents,

Well, what a start to the new school we have had! We knew it might be tricky, but we thought we might at least get a few weeks in before we entered the realms of self-isolation. Nonetheless, we can't fault the enthusiasm and willingness of both pupils and staff to engage with our remote learning via MS Teams. Thank you for the very positive feedback we have had from parents, despite the teething problems we had in the first week. Practice makes perfect! If your child has not yet engaged with Teams, please see below for further details.

You may have spotted on the school calendar that Parents' Evening was scheduled for the week before half-term. Given the circumstances of the last few weeks, we are now going to postpone this to the beginning of December to allow the children to settle into a routine and for the teachers to get to know them better. New dates are on the next page.

It is good to see the children's independence now developing and that most are beginning to build up their resilience again after having been at home over lockdown and again more recently. Parents who have had children at St Jude's for some years will know that the children have always come into school by themselves in the mornings (apart from the very first week of their time here.) Understandably, that has been a little more difficult for some this year but I believe that most are very happy to say goodbye to their parents at the gate and walk to the classroom by themselves (perhaps they are more ready than their parents are!) Of course, we will always work with parents in the case of a child being particularly anxious, but otherwise, please do help to build up your child's independence and support us with minimising the number of adults on site in the mornings by saying your goodbyes at the gate. There is no change to the afternoons. Thank you.

With the very best wishes, *Mrs Chiverton.*

Mrs Brant...

...is now on maternity leave and we look forward to hearing some very exciting news over the next couple of weeks.

School Fund

We very much appreciate any donations that parents are able to make to our school fund. We'd like to thank all of you who have set up a £10 monthly standing order. All of your donations enable us to improve your children's learning environment.

To set your standing order up, please use these details:

HSBC a/c no: 51326384 sort code 40-43-04.

Microsoft Teams

Please ensure that you have downloaded Microsoft Teams at home.



This can be done (for free) on a computer, tablet or as an app on your mobile phone.

It is essential that your child has access to Teams to facilitate any remote learning that may be necessary in the future. If your child cannot remember their password, please do contact us and we will reset it.

We are aware that you may have to share devices at home, so we have allowed for this with staggered registration times for any future class closures. Please see our remote learning policy on the school website [School policies and documents](#).

Dates for your diary

7-8 October	School photos
26-30 October	Half-term break
2nd November	Back to school
1 December	Parents' Evening
3 December	Parents' Evening
18th December:	Terms ends at 2.15pm
4th January	INSET day
5th January 2021	Term starts

Collective Worship



Much like everything else so far this term, our worship is taking a different form; you may have joined us from home over the last couple of weeks via MSTeams for Friday's Celebration assembly. As we can only have one year group at a time in the hall, we are taking turns and the remaining classes then join from their classrooms. It can be very entertaining at times but most definitely provides us with the chance of coming together, even though we may not all be in the same space. We are very much looking forward to welcoming back Judith, our vicar, from next week, who will lead worship on a Thursday. We miss singing though!



We are very pleased to still be able to offer hot meals at lunchtime, despite our unusual arrangements of having to eat in classrooms at the moment. We are aware that there are many schools that are only able to offer a sandwich for lunch. Throughout the lockdown period, Mrs Dixon and her Twelve15 catering team have willingly provided this service, even if it meant cooking for only 3 children on some days. In addition, Twelve15 have provided boxes of items for those children who are isolating and are entitled to free schools meals. This will continue to be the case for individuals as well as whole classes.



Twelve15 have a newsletter that they would like to share with parents. [#WelcomebacktoSchool](#)

School Meals



School meals are now £2.40 per day. Our preference would be for the half term **to be paid in advance** but, at the very least, weekly please.

School dinners can be paid for online. If you have not yet received your ScoPay Activation Code to enable you to set up your online payment account, please let us know.

Please do advise the office urgently if you believe that you are entitled to free school meals—even if your child chooses to have packed lunch.

If you are in receipt of Jobseekers Allowance or Universal Credit, you may be eligible. Please speak to Mrs Hall in the school office should you have any queries.

Dear Lord,



At this Harvest time of the year, we are thankful for a plentiful supply of food and we offer our blessings to share with those who are less fortunate. Amen



We will be making a joint Foodbank collection after half term, along with Christ Church Infant School. A list of items that you may wish to donate will be sent to you in a few weeks.

Attendance



If you haven't already done so, please download the Studybugs app so that you can report your child's absence to us. This is a really efficient way of getting the information directly into our register system, as the two programs are compatible with each other. Thank you.

If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or feeling unwell
But they don't have:
• a high temperature
• a new, continuous cough, or
• a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

These are
not normally symptoms of coronavirus

Seek advice from a pharmacy,
dial 111 or see your GP