

St Margaret's C.E.P. School

Newsletter

Inspire, Nurture, Discover

Learning as we grow, Growing as we learn, Rooted in Jesus

Wednesday 23rd Sep

Issue No: 2

An important update on COVID19

Thank you for your continued support. I wish to update you on how the school is responding to the continued and changing challenges we face.

Firstly we need to take account of the weather. We clearly need to retain as much ventilation in classrooms and other areas of the school whilst we face much colder weather. Please ensure children have their jumpers and cardigans with them every day. In the future, we may well be asking for children to 'layer up' taking account of the inevitable lower temperatures. Children should also have a waterproof coat in school. Unless it's heavy rain, the children will be outside so that the classrooms can be fully ventilated at break/lunch times.

Secondly, we wish to continue with children wearing their PE kits on the days when PE lessons are due to take place. Please ensure school PE kit is worn and not football kits and other clothes which clearly are not part of the uniform policy. Again moving forward, children will need a fleece or extra layers. These again should be appropriate for school, ideally, plain colours.

Thirdly, our thoughts are turning to forthcoming Parents Evenings. We are unable to run with the usual format so we are proposing to offer a 10 minute appointment via zoom. Further details will be issued in a separate letter.

Fourthly, despite not being able to use the church for our first service of the new academic year, we wish to continue to celebrate harvest especially as our donations will go to better use than ever with the increase in families using food banks. Father Paul and Rev Lisa will be recording a harvest celebration which the school will then watch via zoom in each classroom on Monday 19th October. We would be delighted to receive food/toiletries donations from Monday 12th October. These should be placed in the boxes which will be positioned outside each classroom.

We appear to be entering a new and unwelcomed stage of this pandemic. We are reinforcing to the pupils the importance of hand washing, the effective use of tissues as well as keeping our distance whenever possible. The children have been very responsive and have shown maturity and co-operation. However, the DFE recommended that schools review their behaviour policies so that COVID19 related behavioural issues were considered and included. Our policy has been duly reviewed and uploaded to the website.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to the whole school team who are going above and beyond every day to ensure that every learning experience is tailored to meet pupils needs. Clearly, the lockdown has impacted on children's academic performance but we are well placed to support them. As you are aware we have employed an additional Teaching Assistant to work with small groups on tailored programmes plugging gaps in learning.

Class teachers are also making daily provision reinforcing the basics whilst striving to deliver a broad curriculum.

Information on the school website (<https://collierstreet.kent.sch.uk/>)

Under the 'news' tab, you will find a COVID19 link. In there is a useful flow chart focusing on COVID symptoms.

Merits

Teachers have been busy counting up the merits awarded for work in term 6 as well as the terrific work completed at home. Consequently, some children have had some impressive totals! Certificates and merit badges will be issued very soon.

Russet Class

Last week Russet Class attended full days all week and also attended, via Zoom, their first Celebration Worship last Friday. Well done everyone.

Data Collection Sheets

Mrs Bentley will be issuing data collection sheets. It would be much appreciated if these could be returned by next Monday. Thank you.

Breakfast Club

Back in July, we asked families if they required places for breakfast club. If you haven't yet used the facility, please can you let the office know if these spaces are still required. Many thanks.

Enjoy the rest of the week.