

Deal Parochial Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

Thursday 9th July 2020

Dear Families

Thank you

I would like to start with some words of thanks. Firstly, for the fabulous outfits that the children were all wearing on arrival at school last week for our Come as Who you Really Are day. It was great fun to see all your creative ideas and inject a bit of fun into the day. Thank you for joining in and for your contributions towards the school funds.



You may notice that we are finally managing to work on the Yellow shed on the playground. I am hoping that this will get finished and it can be a place of quiet and reflection during play and lunch times for children who would like this. When things get back to normal, it will be stocked with some mindful activities, books, crafts and a comfy space to just sit. You might find me in there on Friday afternoon!!

My second BIG THANK YOU for is for everyone's trust and understanding when managing a COVID case on Monday this week. Thank you for being so calm and supportive. I am waiting to hear from the family regarding how they all are, and I will pass on any relevant information asap.

This sort of news is going to break out from time to time. I do not think we are going to get rid of COVID and need to remember the importance of working in our Bubbles, washing our hands, cleaning school equipment and keeping the social distance. From talking to Public Health England (PHE), it seems this is the best way we can contain any outbreaks and track and trace the people who may be at risk. I want to assure you that we really will do our best to keep to these guidelines. We thank you for helping us to achieve this by the way you are dropping off and collecting children at the staggered times. This is going to have to continue when we come back in September. I will send a revised timetable to you next week, which will outline all the times in the daily routines.

Secondary School Transition

Secondary schools are beginning to provide "transition virtual tours" for our soon to leave Yr 6 pupils. Looking ahead they are also sending out invitations to our current Yr 5 pupils.

Please visit the websites of any secondary school you may be interested in your child attending and find out what they are planning. SRM's has asked us to pass on the information below.

Manwood's Virtual Open Evening

Sir Roger Manwood's are holding virtual open evenings for families who may be interested. Please see the links to their web site for further information.

<http://www.manwoods.co.uk/admissions/y7-admissions/>

You can find links to the videos and documents that together make up our first ever virtual Open Evening.

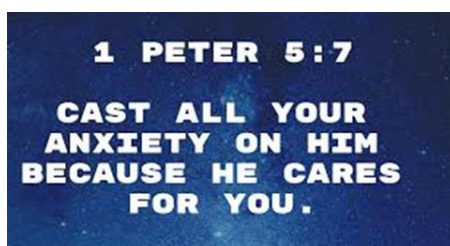


In school Transitions

This year we have changed the way we carry out the usual class and teacher swaps in order to accommodate the COVID Bubble set up! As the children move into the new year groups we have arranged for our current staff to cover the class.

The dates for children who are currently attending school are as follows. There is an additional date for the current Yr 3 pupils who are unable to come into school due to the restrictions. I felt that this particular year group especially, would not know their teacher at all and may become anxious over the summer.

With this in mind, if any parent feels that their child is building up anxieties about their September start, please get in touch with us. I am sure that we can arrange something to help reduce the “worry monsters” building up!



DATE	Yr group	Move to	New Teacher for September
Wednesday 15 th afternoon	Yr 5	Yr 6 classroom	Ms Watson
Thursday 16 th	EYFS - Ladybirds	Yr 1 classroom all day	Ms Cluff & Mrs Dougall
Thursday 16 th morning	Yr 1 group A	Yr 2 classroom	Miss Rolph
Thursday 16 th afternoon	Yr 1 Group B	Yr 2 classroom	Miss Rolph
Thursday 16 th morning	Yr 3	Yr 4 classroom	Ms Warner
Thursday 16 th	Yr 4	Yr 5 classroom	Mrs Bowles
Friday 17 th morning	Yr 4	Yr 5 classroom	Mrs Bowles
Monday 20 th morning	Yr 3 (for 15 pupils not currently attending school)	Yr 4 classroom. Drop off time – 9:30am Collect 12am	Ms Warner

The last day of term is Wednesday 22nd July. We will finish at 3:15pm.



September Return

The first day back to school for all pupils, except the EYFS new starters is Wednesday 2nd September. By this time I expect that all 210 pupils will be back to school and wearing our full school uniform.

With the COVID restrictions continuing the school routines and curriculum will be different. Each year group will be within their own Bubble. I will appoint a mid-day dinner supervisor for each bubble and children will have to eat in the classrooms. Each bubble will have their own place (zone) to play in outside. Every pupil will have their own tray to store their learning resources. The classrooms will be cleaned every day.

We have ordered new hand sanitizer hand dispensers that can be wall mounted for outside every classroom. In this way we can reduce the time waiting to enter the classrooms. Each year group will have their own toilets and cloakroom area.

Reading books can be sent home, once returned they will be put into a box for 72 hrs to avoid any cross contamination. PE will take place outside only. Please note that PE may therefore be restricted as the winter weather returns. We will try to come up with some creative alternatives for the children.

Learning will be focused on developing the growth mind set. We are aware that we will need to rebuild learning stamina and concentration, as well as going back over the previous year group's curriculum.

We will focus on the core skills but aim to keep it fun. We consider it important that our pupils also enjoy the foundation stage subjects such as the history, geography, art and MFL etc. so teachers will be delivering a full and balanced curriculum. We are hoping to include a local off site visit, and some inter-class sporty activities. Plans are afoot!!

I hope that I am creating a positive back to school vibe for everyone. I can't wait for us all to be back together even if it is in a new way – we will make it great! Start getting excited!



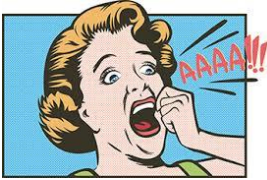
Next week we will send out more details about the staggered school day times and arrangements for Breakfast club etc.

Of course I am now going to state the obvious elephant in the room.

Plan to expect the unexpected!

We know that between now and September any number of things might change our plans.





Please keep an eye on our parentmail especially in the last week of August when I may need to re think arrangements and contact all our families.

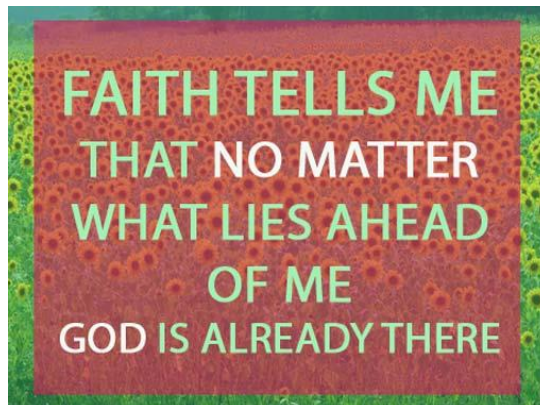
I hope everyone is keeping safe and enjoying the new social distancing rules.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need a helping hand.

I invite you to pause for a moment of reflection and find comfort in the words below.

Kind regards

Justine Brown



Please find Term Dates and Inset Dates for your diary below:

ACADEMIC YEAR 2020 – 2021

- Term 1 01/09/20 – 23/10/20
- Term 2 02/11/20 – 18/12/20
- Term 3 04/01/21 – 12/02/21
- Term 4 22/02/21 – 01/04/21
- Term 5 19/04/21 – 28/05/21
- Term 6 07/06/21 – 21/07/21

INSET DAYS (NO SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN)

- Tuesday 1st September 2020
- Friday 23rd October 2020
- Monday 2nd November 2020
- Monday 4th January 2021
- Monday 22nd February 2021

