

# Deal Parochial Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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GladstoneRoad  
Walmer, Deal  
Kent CT14 7ER  
Website: www.dealparochialkent.sch.uk

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

## Vision Statement

Our School is built on the teachings of the Bible and inspired by The Gospel Values of Faith, Hope and Love.

Our Christian ethos is upheld by respecting humanity fostered through our community that is welcoming, inclusive and forgiving.

Together we flourish through courageous learning, friendships and generosity.

## A prayer to get us started.

We give you praise, O God, for everything that is new and beautiful, for everything which holds promise and brings us joy. Bless us as we start this new year with our friends and teachers. Help us to make the most of every chance we have to start afresh.

May we show love to one another and to all. May the new beginning of this school year remind us that you give us chances to start over again and again. Help us to forgive others as we receive your forgiveness.

Help us to learn and to work together. Help us to listen when we should and to know the best words when we speak and when it is better not to speak.

We thank you for our friends. Help us to be good friends this year. Help us to be patient with ourselves and with others.

Bless our school and keep us safe. Be with us as we travel each day.

Help us to be aware of your love shown to us in the people around us.

Bless all those who care for us. In school and at home. Help us show our care for them and to say sorry when we need to.

Amen

Newsletter September 2020 Term 1



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Dear Families

## September has at last arrived!

I am so pleased to welcome everybody back to school. It is fantastic that we are together again as a whole school community. I hope that you have all had a refreshing summer, that the sun has restored you, and that you feel ready for a new academic year.

Many staff have been back to school busily planning events, preparing the premises, diary dates and learning themes so that all the pupils receive an enriched, exciting and new learning opportunities. Teachers have been in school through the holidays creating learning spaces and their classrooms and so that we are ready for the new way of working, meeting the requirements of minimising the risks spreading this relentless pandemic. We are determined not to be disheartened or put off and are trying our best to invent new ways of delivering a curriculum that meets the needs of our pupils.

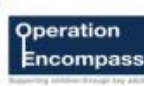
Don't forget that our opening theme across the school is **Journeys**, based on the children's book "Journey" by Aaron Becker.

In this first month we will be gently reacclimatising all pupils back into the learning zone, practising skills such as how to concentrate, how to learn and how to apply their own learning skills and knowledge. We do expect that we are all at different places in our learning powers, some will be feeling ready to get going whilst others may feel apprehensive and self-conscious. Life would be so boring if we were all the same! So all staff will embrace our differences, and be there to support and build up new social and emotional skills as well as learning powers. Teachers will be talking about Growth Mindset and taking the pupils back over previously taught skills so that we can reinforce and re learn and re build!

I am sure that some families have experienced challenges in the last few months and I ask that you respond to the very short questionnaire that comes at the end of this letter. We want to help ensure as smooth a transition as possible for us all. We have a "Track and Trace" system set up. Like most institutions we will be requiring all adults / visitors who come into school to cooperate with a quick health check. This includes keeping a record of names and contact details as well as taking their temperature and asking some questions about their health and any exposure to COVID. This is just a routine step that again is part of minimising risk of spreading the disease.

### Back to school – arrangements - Staggered start and home time.

Don't forget that we have alphabetically grouped family surnames and linked them to an arrival and collection times. If this is inconvenient because it clashes with siblings at another school just let Mrs Porteous and the class teacher know and we can make allowances, this is not a problem. Thank you to those parents who have already requested this in advance.



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In order to ensure that we don't have large congregations of adults and students, we have to stagger our arrival and dismissal times. Please look at the times below and be as prompt as you are able. We ask that you drop and pick up as swiftly as possible to ensure the safety of the whole school community.

Please note that parents are not able to come through the gate to the class at the beginning of the day. There will be a member of staff on both gates at the beginning of the day, so if there are any messages, please pass them onto them or contact the office (via phone or email) who will pass them onto the relevant teachers.

Family Arrival time Alphabetical order (Surname)	Arrival Time KS1 Gate (R,1 & 2) KS2 Gate (3,4,5, & 6)	Collection Time
A-F	0830	1500
G-P	0845	1510
R-Z	0900	1520

**PE** - Please remember **NO** PE kits to come into school. To keep to the very minimum of equipment and things that children bring from home into school, we ask that the children come into school on their PE day in PE kit. The class teacher will inform you of the PE day.

## Health

Please remember that if your child shows any sign of feeling unwell that they must not come to school. Please ensure that you phone the school and inform them of any illness on the day. If your child is taken ill at school we will contact you immediately and ask that a family member comes immediately to take them home.

## Back to school support from the DFE

Parents are encouraged to visit [gov.uk/backtoschool](https://gov.uk/backtoschool) for information and practical guidance to help them plan for their children's return to school. This includes their latest update to the [guidance for parents and carers on what they need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term](#).

## Some sad news

It is with great sadness that we have to inform you all of Toni Crew's passing (Charlie & Faith's mother). She passed away on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August at her parents house with parents and her sister by her side. Toni has arranged to



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donate her body to the London Anatomy Office where she will help to teach post graduate surgeons. The family would like to thank all the NHS staff who have helped Toni over the part four years. They would also like to thank everyone who has sent messages of support on social media. Toni will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

**An invitation to spend a minute quietly reflecting on this Psalm.**



## Psalm 84:1-4,10-12

*How beautiful is the place where you live O Lord Almighty. My soul longs to enter the to enter the courts of the Lord. With my whole being, body and soul, I will shout joyfully to the living God.*

*Even the sparrow finds a home there, and the swallow builds her nest and raises her young at a place near your altar, O LORD Almighty, my King and my God! How blessed are those who can live in your house, always singing your praises.*

*A single day in your courts is better than a thousand anywhere else! I would rather be a gatekeeper in the house of my God than live the good life in the homes of the wicked. For the LORD God is our light and protector. He gives us grace and glory. God never holds back grace from those who do what is right. O Lord Almighty, blessed are those who trust in you.*

What questions does this Psalm bring up for you?

What is meaningful to you in here?

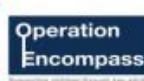
Have you felt something like what this Psalm describes? Do you want to?

We are working hard so that the new academic year starts positively and that everybody feels welcome, safe and enthusiastic. Please do not hesitate to contact me or staff with any comments and concerns. Often it is your suggestions that makes positive changes to how the school operates and to the opportunities that we create together.

Happy back to school day is **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020**. See you all at the gate!

With kindness

Justine Brown



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## Catching up. Help us to Help You.



This is your opportunity to let us know anything that you are worried about, any changes that will help us, or just provide some helpful understanding about your child and family.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact details: \_\_\_\_\_

Pupil name \_\_\_\_\_

Year / Class \_\_\_\_\_

1. **Learning** – how did your child get on with the home learning? Is there anything specific that you have noted that caused your child anxiety or challenge?

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2. **Reading** - Have you or other adults been able to read with your child regularly? (This is always not possible and we understand that working parents and busy households do not always have the facility to read at home, especially under lock down). So we are asking in order that we can plan additional support if required for catch up.

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3. **Personal circumstances and contact detail changes.** If there are any changes that we should be aware of, please jot them down on this form.

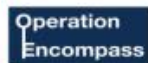
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4. **Worries / Concern about starting back to school.**

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5. Updates on any medical information (e.g. any new allergies or medication)

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*Please send this form back in an envelope to the Class teacher with the child's name on the front*

