



# NEWSLETTER



Mrs Michelle Walsh – Headteacher

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

*As we come towards the end of the academic year, I would like to write to provide you with some more details about the end of this term and the beginning of next term. This has been a year like no other and has caused much disruption both at school and within homes. I hope you are all keeping safe and well as we consider carefully how we can proceed in the Autumn term to have more children back in school safely. I would also like to thank everyone for their patience, understanding and support as we have worked our way through the implications of this crisis together. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.*

**End of term:** School will close for the summer holidays on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July at lunchtime for **all** children including children of key workers. I hope that everyone manages to have a nice break over the summer whilst maintaining accordance with any restrictions that remain. Work set on google classroom will stop for the summer holidays but I would like to thank all families who were able for the hard work you have shown to ensure that this new technology could be used to continue learning. Please note that school will not be offering any childcare for key worker children on the last day of term in the afternoon. All children will need to be collected from school at lunchtime on this day. Thank you.

**Transition:** Usually at this time of year, we would be holding transition days to allow children to meet their new class teacher in preparation for the next academic year. Obviously that is not going to be possible this year. Therefore, each teacher will create a short welcome clip to be placed on the google classroom for their new class to see. In addition, a short note for children will be emailed home to welcome pupils into their new year groups. I have also asked current classteachers and teaching assistants to contact all pupils who are currently not having contact with school to check on their well-being and to provide any reassurance required in preparation for September.

**Free School Meals:** Following a campaign by the footballer, Marcus Rashford, the government have agreed to provide food vouchers for pupils who are eligible for free school meals over the summer. These vouchers are currently being sourced and will be sent to eligible families before the summer break.

**Pope Francis says:** " God's generous gratitude takes into account even the smallest gesture of love and service given to our brothers and sisters."



**Arrangements for the new term:** As you may have heard in the news, the Department for Education have stated that all children will be expected to return to school from September. This means that all of our year groups will be able to return but that there will still be some safety measures in place to ensure the safety of everyone. These measures will include staggered start and end of day times, staggered breaktimes and lunchtimes, increased cleaning and continued hygiene such as regular handwashing. Each year group will become a 'bubble' and the 'bubbles' will not be allowed to mix. If any member of a 'bubble' tests positive for Covid 19, the whole 'bubble' will need to self-isolate for 14 days and will not be able to return to school during this time. I will be writing to you again before the end of term regarding individual year group arrangements for start and finish times etc. Before and after school club will run from September onwards as normal. Please book your place in the usual way by emailing Mrs Atkins on [office@saintelizabeths.co.uk](mailto:office@saintelizabeths.co.uk).

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