

TODDINGTON ST. GEORGE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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Lighting a spark in every child"

10th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Covid Arrangements

Please can we remind all Parents and Carers that if they are self-isolating, or if they have a child who is self-isolating, **the self-isolating adult and/or child should not be in the line to drop off or pick up** other children at our school. We appreciate this may mean you will find it difficult to get your child to and from school as they may not be needing to self-isolate, so please call us as necessary on **01525 872360** for advice as necessary.

Please be aware that staff are subject to Test and Trace alerts and newly issued hospital letters re work, just as anyone else is in the country is. As a result, over the last 2 weeks staffing capacity has changed. We still have every bubble open and will continue to do all we can for the children. We may, however, be slightly slower in our response times from teachers to any emails over the next 8-10 days. Please only ring or email if you have a specific question as staff are very busy maintaining the bubbles with reduced staffing. Thank you.

Parent Calls

Thank you for being available for the Parent Calls this week. We hope these have been of benefit for you and your child. We are busy supporting a number of children across the school with catching up from lockdown from March to July, so in some cases, you may see the 'take off' for your child comes later in the academic year this year. In other cases, the gap has already diminished which is great to see. Please do not be concerned at this stage if there is still a gap, as all you are doing at home to support your child, and the teachers plans to help 'plug these gaps' for children will pay off. We are grateful for the time taken to talk with staff and work done with them in the best interests of your child.

Remembrance

We hope you have found the '100 Poppies' Toddington Trail interesting and moving. As we can't meet as a whole school tomorrow we will hold our service outside for Years N, R, 1, 2 and 3 tomorrow and Year 4 will have a service inside school in the hall. All the children will be able to experience the importance of the Remembrance Service accordingly.

Lunches Hot meals are going really well and the children seem to really enjoy the food and the special 'flight' boxes for lunch. Please be aware that **after November 23rd** we will **no longer** have a packed lunch option from the catering company Chartwells so your child can still have a school hot dinner, or bring their own packed lunch.

Children in Need

We are not celebrating Children in Need this year. We would normally support this event but as we have had reduced staffing currently this won't be possible. We will encourage all the children to enjoy the television event though.

Shoe boxes Shoe box week Nov 9-16th.

If you had wanted to send a shoebox of gifts for a child who won't receive any Christmas gifts this year you can still donate this via the online site shoeboxonline.org.uk. This way you can stay safe but still donate. Alternatively, if you do decide to fill a shoebox yourself these can be dropped off at the drop off points identified on the website. We are very sad not to be able to do this with the children and School Council this year, but the restrictions we have to work to regarding bringing things in and out of school and cleaning fabrics /toys etc., mean we cannot host this opportunity in school this year.

TALC (Teaching a Lifelong learning curriculum in Community

Year 4 have a great day planned for their '**End of WW2**' activities day this Friday and we have reviewed the other trips and visits we would normally offer to see where we can add in special day activities and virtual links here to keep our curriculum as lively and stimulating as possible.

Year 4 Transition to Middle School

Year 4 Parents and Carers.

Parkfields have issued a letter for you explaining the transition and application process to middle school. Please visit their website www.parkfieldsschool.co.uk to see their **Virtual Open Evening film**.

Christmas Calling all knitting enthusiasts

As Christmas plans have to be different for school and we are not able to do our usual productions for Parents to come and see we are organising a whole school event that can be sent to all families as a DVD (or possibly as a link) for Christmas. Lots of the other Christmas activities will be possible in school and a Christmas dates list will be sent next week. **For our whole school event we do need each class to have some knitted Nativity figures! If you love knitting and can help please can you ring or email Mrs Barnish (872360) so we can let you know how you could help. Thanks so much!**

Many thanks,

Jane Spencer
Headteacher