



ST. ALDHELM'S VA CHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHELYNCH PARK, DOULTING, SHEPTON MALLET, SOMERSET, BA4 4PL

Tel: (01749) 880376

www.staldhelms.co.uk

staldhelmsoffice@educ.somerset.gov.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mrs P Cohen

Thursday 2nd July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all well and having a good week. There is a need to get some rain dancing underway to bring back the sun, I think!

Summer Holidays

We have been able to provide care for children of Key Workers and those children who may be vulnerable during the time of partial school closure, including the Easter holiday. It has now been confirmed that schools are not providing any child care provision during the summer holiday. There will be organised provision for children in disadvantaged families set up and led locally and we will forward this information to these families once it becomes available. Other paid for child care provision can now be restarted, so this should help families who need to continue working and can be accessed as you would do normally.

September Planning

We are all eagerly awaiting the government's guidance on plans for schools in September. We have been informed that this is likely to now be on 15th July. This information is crucial to our planning as it will determine the way we organise children's classes, including timings, routines and expectations. Whilst we know how frustrating this is for us, we totally understand that it is extremely hard for parents to plan ahead and be prepared for the start of term. Rest assured that we will be in touch as soon as we can with confirmed details. At the moment we are planning for all children to return into the class groupings we shared last week. We are waiting to know whether these groups become a bubble and staff are allocated to one bubble only. It looks as though we will need to continue with staggered start and finish times so the school day may look slightly different for each class. We have at least had experience of this during this term, so can be prepared for this should it be confirmed. It will mean that parents need to arrive at an allotted time and leave the car park swiftly to allow for the next class of children to arrive. This information will be shared as soon as possible but will be subject to change following the government review in August. Thank you so much for your patience at this time.

Uniform

I mentioned before about uniform being preferable, but not compulsory, in September. We now know that the uniform shops have been able to supply uniform so hopefully you will be able to buy what you need. What we don't yet know, is whether clothing needs to continue to be washed each day. Should this continue to be the case, we will understand that children may not have enough uniform to wear fresh uniform every day. In this instance we ask that they dress as closely as possible to uniform.

Breakfast and After School Club

We would really like to restart our Breakfast and After School Club in September and know that many working parents rely on this provision. However, it may not be possible if we are required to continue in bubbles as children would have to mix between two bubbles. Again, we wait for guidance, but will only reopen the provision if it is safe to do so for your children.

Video Conferencing

The video conferencing has proved really successful this week. Teachers have really enjoyed talking to the children in smaller class groups. It's been good to hear how they have shared news and learning they have been doing at home. We recognise that for many children this may have been a challenge but have been so proud at the bravery and courage shown to take part. This is indeed a step forwards and hopefully the next online meeting will feel a little easier, with children feeling a little more confident. I look forward to hearing the reflections of this year and the dreams and excitement for next year.

June Newsletter

The June Newsletter is now up on the website – please enjoy the latest news and wonderful pictures of learning.

Please continue to look after yourselves, take care and stay safe.

Kind regards

Pippa Cohen

Headteacher

St Aldhelm's VA Church Primary School | Chelynch Park | Doultong | BA4 4PL

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