

Thursday July 16th 2020

Dear Parents,

I am writing to you at the end of a very difficult academic year for all of us. Whilst it has been heartening to see more children returning to school since June, it is sad that we have not seen many of our families since March. However, it is the government's plan that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term. As there has been a decrease in the prevalence of coronavirus, the government recommends that schools increase the size of bubbles to whole classes. The guidance states that these classes should be kept apart from other classes wherever possible and that strict hygiene and prevention measures remain in place. To restrict the contact between groups we will need to stagger the entry and exit of pupils when returning to school on Tuesday September 8th. You will be given a window of time when you should bring your child to school and collect your child. It is very important that you do not arrive too early or too late as this will cause congestion at the school gates. Please continue to observe social distancing when in the school grounds or at the school gates, and if you have pre-school children with you, please keep them by your side at all times. If you have children in more than one year group please bring your children at the earliest time and collect them at the earliest time.

- Nursery and Reception classes have been given separate advice on timings from the staff for the first two weeks of term
- Year One- from Wednesday September 9th and onwards (please see below separate information for Tuesday September 8th) bring your child through the main gate from 8.50 a.m. to 9.00. Your child can then go straight into the Year 1/2 entrance door and into their classroom. A teacher or teaching assistant will be there to welcome them so that you can leave promptly without needing to queue. Please leave the yard by the 'sports day' gate which will allow us to operate a one-way system in the yard. This gate will be signposted if you are not familiar with this gate. Staff will be in the yard too to guide you. At the end of the day you can collect your child between 3.25 and 3.35. Please do not arrive before this time. Your child will be dismissed to you individually by a member of staff when you can leave again by the sports day gate.
- Year Two- from Tuesday September 8th and onwards bring your child through the main gate from 8.50 a.m. to 9.00. Your child can then go straight into the Year 1/2 entrance door and into their classroom. A teacher or teaching assistant will be there to welcome them so that you can leave promptly without needing to queue. Please leave the yard by the 'sports day' gate which will allow us to operate a one-way system in the yard. This gate will be signposted if you are not familiar with this gate. Staff will be in the yard too to guide you. At the end of the day you can collect your child between 3.25 and 3.35. Please do not arrive before this time. Your child will be dismissed to you individually by a member of staff when you can leave again by the sports day gate.
- Year Three and Year Four- from Tuesday September 8th and onwards bring your child through the main gate from 8.40 a.m. to 8.50. Your child can then go straight into the junior yard where their teacher or teaching assistant will be there to welcome them and guide them to their own entrances. Please leave the yard by the 'sports day' gate which will allow us to operate a one-way system in the yard. This gate will be signposted if you are not familiar with this gate. Staff will be in the yard too to guide you. At the end of the day you can collect your child between 3.15 and 3.25. Please do not arrive before this time. Please wait at the bottom the yard and your child will be dismissed to you by a member of staff and then you can leave again by the sports day gate.

- Year Five and Year Six- from Tuesday September 8th and onwards bring your child through the main gate from 8.30- 8.40. Your child can go straight into the junior yard where a teacher or teaching assistant will be there to welcome them and guide them to their entrance. Please leave the yard by the 'sports day' gate which will allow us to operate a one-way system in the yard. This gate will be signposted if you are not familiar with this gate. Staff will be in the yard too to guide you. At the end of the day you can collect your child between 3.05 and 3.15. Please do not arrive before this time. Your child will be dismissed to you by a member of staff when you can leave again by the sports day gate.

Your child can wear school uniform as usual, and a school bag with a water bottle is permitted. The children should not bring anything else as the school will provide each child with a name-labelled pencil case containing all the equipment they will need.

New Classes

Nursery: Miss H. Storey and Mrs. S. Miller

Reception: Miss K. Dixon and Mrs. J. Hill

Year One: Miss R. Langley and Mrs. D. Dunn

Year Two: Mrs. C. Kennedy/Mrs. C. Clements and Mrs. C. Wheeler

Year Three: Mr. B. McVittie and Miss E. Moffett

Year Four: Mrs. V. Davis and Mrs. J. Molenda

Year Five: Mrs. N. Mackley and Mrs. L. McDonald

Year Six: Mrs. C. Devine (Deputy Headteacher) and Mrs. L. Welsh

The children would normally have taken part in transition activities at the end of term but instead we have done this through Google classroom.

Year 1

Mrs. McVittie will be on maternity leave for the whole of the academic year so we have appointed a Year 1 teacher, Miss Rebecca Langley, for the full school year. As the reception class children have not had the opportunity to meet Miss Langley, we would like the children to come into the reception class entrance on Tuesday September 8th between 8.50 and 9.00. This will mean that the children can come into school through a familiar entrance where Miss Dixon will introduce 'Year 1' to their new teacher. Miss Dixon and Miss Langley will then take the children into their new classroom together. Miss Langley will also be introducing herself to the class on the Year 1 class page before the beginning of term. There is no need to queue at the reception class door as Miss Dixon will be there to welcome the children and take them into school. You will have the opportunity to see Miss Langley when you collect your child at the end of the day (Miss Dixon will be assisting her in dismissing the children until she becomes familiar with parents' faces). I'm sure the children will love their new teacher.

Year 5

Mr. Clark and Mrs. Waters are both leaving St. Bede's School at the end of term. Mr. Clark has taught Year 5 throughout Mrs. Mackley's maternity leave. During his time here, Mr. Clark has shown

commitment and dedication to the school and the pupils in his class. It has been a pleasure to have him as a member of staff and we wish him happiness in his next school.

Mrs. Waters is also leaving us to train to become a reverend at Cranmer Hall in Durham. We are grateful for the dedication she also has shown to the pupils and staff at St. Bede's School and we wish her happiness and fulfilment in her new vocation.

Year 6

Although some of our Y6 pupils returned to school this half term, we have not been able to do all of the usual transition activities with them. It is so disappointing for the children and their families that we have not been able to end their time with school in the traditional way with a concert, leavers' mass and assembly. The children still enjoyed wearing their leavers' hoodies, sharing memories with their friends and signing each other's polo-shirts. It was lovely to be able to say goodbye personally to some of them but for those children and families who did not return, we wish you all happiness in the future and thank you for your support and kindness over the years.

Start of Term

The school reopens on Tuesday September 8th with the staggered start times that I have shared with you. Please take care of yourselves and your children over the summer holidays. I hope that you will be able to take careful advantage of some of the new freedoms we have been given recently.

The staff and I wish you all a safe and happy summer and pray for a more 'normal' autumn term for the whole school community.

With very best wishes,

N. Park