



Newsletter 20



Every child fulfilling their potential in a nurturing learning environment underpinned by Christian values.

Mr P Hayward: Headteacher

Friday 22nd January 2021

Review Of School Places

I would like to begin by saying thank you to the many parents who have taken the effort to send in positive comments about the work the teachers and support staff are doing to educate your children.

From Monday 25th January, I have asked Mrs Palmer (Dawn) and Mrs Hughes (Lesley) to contact every parent, with a child attending school at the moment, to review their child's place. Mrs Palmer and Mrs Hughes will ask you to:

- Confirm your area of work
- For you to explain your work pattern to ascertain which days your child needs to be in school
- Whether there is another adult at home
- Whether your child is in school because they lack equipment

The reason for this is there has been a significant increase in the number of children in school. By keeping children at home, you are doing the following:

**reducing the infection rate,
reducing the spread of the virus,
protecting the school staff so that home-learning can continue**

The government recently published its expectation of children in school during this lockdown. It said, on average, between 5% and 20% of children are in school. Currently we have 30% of our children in school and I am receiving daily calls saying that home learning is difficult. I fully agree. With two of my own three children at home home-learning, I know what you are going through.

The reason I am reviewing places is because, in school, we are nearing a tipping point. At the moment, I am able to release most of the teachers to prepare lessons and offer live teaching sessions to children at home. If I allow more children into school, I will have to draft more teachers into school to supervise the critical worker children and so they will be unable to provide live sessions to their classes. This will have an impact on the children at home.

For my part, I feel the live sessions make home-learning more bearable. The feedback has been really positive and as teachers grow in confidence and are getting the measure of what to prepare, they are beginning to offer more and are being more creative.

When you receive your telephone call, I would appreciate it if you could be cooperative with Mrs Palmer and Mrs Hughes. They are simply collecting information for me; they are not making judgements about children's places in school.

Equipment In School And Packed Lunches

When your child is in school, they may bring a pencil case so that they are only using their own equipment. Once in school, I would like the pencil cases to stay please, even if your child is in school for one day a week. Water bottles may go home because they are sterilised when they are washed and refilled. If your child has a packed lunch, please thoroughly wipe down their lunch boxes each day. Thank you

School Meals

School meals for children in school this week will be as follows:

Monday 25 th January -	Pizza or Jacket Potato
Tuesday 26 th January -	Macaroni Cheese or Jacket Potato
Wednesday 27 th January -	Roast Dinner or Jacket Potato
Thursday 28 th January -	Spaghetti Bolognese or Jacket Potato
Friday 29 th January -	Fish Fingers or Quorn - no jacket

Welcome Father Jason Phillips New Team Rector of Mid-Trent Churches

I am pleased to announce the arrival of Father Jason Phillips to the Mid-Trent Churches. I have attached a letter of introduction from him. Once he has settled in and able to move about, I am sure we will be seeing him in school. Father Jason has emailed me a number of interesting and useful articles to share with you. The first one is a Home Worship Plan, which families may use to help plan their worship over the lockdown.

Prayer Space – For 2021

"Thank you God for our learning today.
Thank you for the opportunities given to us to improve our minds.
Thank you also for your promise, and for your rainbow to remind us.
Help us to keep the promises that we make,
and keep us safe in your care. Amen."

CHILL BOOKINGS

To book a place for your child in CHILL please click on the link below. Thank you.

<https://www.st-andrews-weston.staffs.sch.uk/parents/1382-2/>

And finally...

This week has seen the highest number of Covid-19 fatalities since the pandemic began. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families who have lost loved ones. Now, more than ever, is a time for resolve and patience. The resolve to support our children with their education and patience, waiting for the time when we can open the school doors fully.

I am frequently asked, "When will schools open again?" The surprising thing is, headteachers do not get advance notice of government decisions, as was the case on Monday 4th January when the government announced the partial closures of schools at 8.00pm in the evening. As ever, once I know anything that will be useful to parents, I will pass it on. Without wishing to sound patronising, I think you are doing an amazing job in difficult circumstances.

Mr Hayward.



Dates for the academic year 2020 – 2021

Spring Term 2021

4.00pm and 5.00pm

Half term: Monday 15 February - Friday 19 February 2021

Thursday 1 April

Term ends

Holiday: Friday 2 April - Friday 16 April 2021

Easter Sunday: Sunday 4 April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Monday 19 April

School opens

Monday 3 May

School closed

Half term: Monday 31 May - Friday 4 June 2021

Monday 7 June

INSET Day

Wednesday 21 July

Term ends

Holiday: Thursday 22 July - Tuesday 31 August 2021

TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021 – 2022

Please note, INSET days are yet to be confirmed.

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Inset day: Wednesday 1 September

Term Starts: Thursday 2 September

Half Term: Monday 25 October – Friday 29 October

Term ends: Friday 17 December

Holiday: Monday 20 December – Monday 3 January

SPRING TERM 2022

Term Starts: Tuesday 4 January

Half Term: Monday 21 February – Friday 25 February

Term ends: Friday 8 April

Holiday: Monday 11 April – Friday 22 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 17 April

SUMMER TERM 2022

Term starts: Monday 25 April

May Day: Monday 2 May

Half Term: Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

Term ends: Thursday 21 July

Holiday: Friday 22 July – Friday 2 September