

17th July 2020

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of the most unusual school year I have experienced in my 30 years of teaching. I would never have imagined that anything could bring schools to a close for so long and that teachers and children would have to adjust to a curriculum delivered online.

Thank you to children, parents, staff, governors and the local community - who have remained so positive and have supported the school throughout this very testing time - everyone deserves a congratulatory pat on the back for their mammoth efforts.

I sincerely hope you all manage to enjoy your summer holidays and I look forward to seeing all the children back in school on **Thursday 3rd September 2020** when we plan to re-open for everyone.

Good-byes

We are very sad to be saying good bye to all our brilliant Year 6 children today. We wish them all the luck in the world for their new schools. We held a Leaver's Service for them this week which we have filmed for parents. The film will be available on Seesaw for parents to view.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Rudge who is retiring from her role as teaching assistant after many years. We wish her every happiness. We also say goodbye to Mrs Wilson, Mrs Spencer and Mrs Stancombe who are all moving on to pastures new and we wish them every success.

Hellos

We look forward to welcoming Miss Beckett, Miss Morris and Miss Fitzgibbon all of whom will be taking up teaching posts at the school in September. We will also be welcoming Miss Kister and Miss Archbold as new teaching assistants and Ms Gately who will be running breakfast club. And of course we will be welcoming all our new Reception children and their families as well as a number of new pupils who will be starting in other year groups.

Microsoft Teams

I appreciate that many of you have had difficulty with Microsoft Teams App and may not have managed to access scheduled meetings. I am very sorry if your child wasn't able to join a scheduled meeting. The teachers are extremely busy continuing the online learning as well as covering classes at school and getting to grips with MS Teams.

Please can I ask parents not to contact teachers directly via MS Teams or directly using teachers' emails. Teachers do not have the time to respond to parents individually.

Plans for re-opening in September

Please see the attached communication about our plans for re-opening in September. Please forgive the length of this document. The Government released its plans for the full re-opening of schools on 2nd July and what I have written provides you with a general overview of this.

There are some details which we have not yet had chance to plan such as the staggered start and end times and the way pupils should enter and leave the site. Further updates with all the information you will need will be sent out to parents towards the end of August.

Guitar lessons

Matt Hopkins, the guitar teacher, will no longer be teaching guitar at St. Mary's in September. We have a new guitar teacher who is able to teach children remotely. If you are interested in your child learning guitar in September please let the office know and we will send you further information.

In the event of a confirmed case of coronavirus

In the unlikely event that a child who has attended school has a confirmed case of coronavirus in the first 2 weeks of the summer holiday, it is essential that parents get in touch with the school to inform us. Please telephone: 07759043054 and email the school office: admin@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk if your child tests positive for coronavirus in the first two weeks of the holiday. We will then inform all those who have been in contact with that child and Public Health England.

Thank you.

I hope you all have restful and enjoyable summer holidays.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Woolley

Headteacher