



office@ststephens.bwmat.org

@StStephensPri



Newsletter 38

10th July, 2020

Happy Friday!

The weeks are absolutely flying by as we eagerly look ahead to September and finalise our arrangements. I will be writing to you on Monday with more detail, but the headlines are that we are planning to re-open full time for all year groups and as close to the usual start and end of day times as possible (allowing for a little staggering of times to reduce crowding where necessary).

At the same time, we are working through the practicalities of re-opening Breakfast and After School Care Club, with the intention of beginning to receive children from Monday 7th September. This is very much a provisional date as there is still so much to work through to ensure everyone is as safe as possible, but I wanted to be open with you about what we are hoping to be able to offer.

Gathering on the Green... Please can I again politely ask that you move away from school as quickly as possible at the end of the day and avoid gathering on the green. We have extensive measures in place in school to prevent contact between groups of children to reduce the risk of transmission and ask for your support in avoiding any gatherings that are against government guidance. Thank you for your help with this.

Transition Visits... For the second week running we welcomed back children in years 2 to 5 on Wednesday to meet their new teacher and once again it was fantastic to see the children laughing, running and playing together, whilst chatting and catching up with their friends. It was a timely reminder of the fun and positive energy we can look forward to in September.

Also, on Wednesday, our Reception staff met our new children. Huddled from the weather under gazebos, our teachers and teaching assistants met with each of our new children and parents on the green to begin to form those important and special partnerships. Thank you to all parents who braved the weather to support us with this.

Reports... Earlier today you should have received an email with a covering letter from me about your child's report, emailed this year to save on paper. After a gargantuan effort by Mr de Alberqueque, all reports were posted out today and should arrive with you tomorrow. Enjoy!

Library Update... We hope over this sustained period of time off that you have been able to read lots of books, stories and everything in between. Many of you will have class and library books - please keep hold of these until September as your new teacher will collect them, before quarantining and cleaning them. If you are interested in buying any new books, please check out the Scholastic website as all books bought will give St Stephen's credit to spend on library books in the future (simply add the school address when checking out).

Many thanks,

Mr Preedy, Mrs Smith and Mrs Young



End of Term Doodle Maths News

It has been a nail biting week as classes competed for the top 3 places. The wait is finally over and I can reveal the classes who had the most stars over the academic year were:

First place **F9**, Second Place **F7**, Third Place **F8** . Well done all the children in these classes. What a team effort! The next list is the **Top Ten MathsDoodlers** for the whole academic year! The effort has been truly tremendous – congratulations every single one of you.

1. Joshua F3 15349 stars
2. Lucas F7 11993 stars
3. Alfie F9 10515 stars
4. Eva F9 10409 stars
5. Kwan F7 9906 stars
6. Max F1 9946 stars
7. Megan F9 9533 stars
8. Olivia F14 9314 stars
9. Amelie F9 8189 stars
10. Reggie F8 7827 stars

Finally, thank you to everyone who has supported their child with DoodleMaths. The results are very encouraging. According to a study by the University of Bath, just 20 minutes of DoodleMaths a week is scientifically proven to combat learning loss. This data has inspired DoodleMaths to launch their 2020 Summer Challenge.

So, if you want to take part follow the instructions below:

Step 1 Log in to the Parent Dashboard and in the Summer Challenge panel, press Register next to your child's name

Step 2: Encourage your child to earn 750 stars and achieve a 14 day streak.

Step 3: When your child has reached their goal, visit the parent Dashboard and press Submit entry to claim their reward.

Any questions click on the green chat icon or speak with the Doodle Parent support Team.

Year 6 and any St Stephen's leavers can continue Doodling until September 1st.

Have a great summer.

Carol Foster