

Wednesday 7th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

GOOD NEWS AT LAST from the School Council!

Each year each class vote two representatives for their class to be on the School Council and be their voice when having meetings with various staff.

So far I have met with them twice this half term and both have been very productive meetings, they have been very positive about returning to school. The biggest thing they are happy about is seeing their friends. They actually like sitting facing forwards as it helps them concentrate! This was lovely to hear.

They are very disappointed that we cannot sing and have assemblies like we used to – the biggest of all disappointments is that we cannot have our Christmas productions the way we have for so many years before. Sadly the Bitesize Theatre company who we normally have in have also cancelled. However, As some consolation the children did ask for a DVD day and more own clothes days, which I am sure we can arrange. With this in mind I have found a company who will do an online production for our children. So although we cannot all be together in the hall we can all be in our classes watching the play on the screen.

I will also meet with the staff this week to discuss when our DVD day will be and our own clothes day!

We will have Christmas at St. Oswald's – even if Father Christmas is shielding due to his old age we can find a youthful elf to visit!

Photos

More good news – our annual individual and sibling photos will be taken on Friday 16th October in time for Christmas presents and we will still get a last year in for Year 6.

Now on to serious not so good news ... sorry everyone

Track & Trace App

We have shared with you information about when to get a test. The information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child/letter-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child>

Face Coverings

Thank you to those of you who have taken Sefton's advice on wearing a face covering seriously. We are receiving further advice and guidance regularly as the rates of infection increase in the region. Please see below taken from My Sefton website:

<https://mysefton.co.uk/2020/09/18/new-coronavirus-measures-for-seftons-schools/>

From Friday 18 September adults visiting Sefton schools are required to wear face coverings when visiting or entering the school premises. Also, just one adult will be able to enter the premises for drop-off and pick-up.

Parents and carers dropping off or collecting their children are asked to arrive and leave promptly and not to congregate at the school gate or in the playground and school staff are being asked to wear face coverings when they come out onto the playground.

With numbers of COVID-19 cases rising across the region, and Merseyside having been identified by the Government as “area of concern”, these extra measures are needed to help prevent the spread of the virus. Although children and younger people are less likely to be affected seriously by COVID-19 or may even be asymptomatic, the Council’s concern is that they could take the virus home to potentially vulnerable relatives for whom coronavirus could be very serious or even fatal.

For our school this means:

- Any visitor to the school now will be asked wear a face covering
- Parents are asked to wear either a mask or visor during drop off and pick up.
- Only one parent/carer to drop off or pick up.
- Parents/carers to leave immediately after drop off or pick up.

Please see the Government guidance below for parents.

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Self Isolation

If you or a member of your household is self isolating, please do not come to school or onto the playground. We have had a few older siblings who have been sent home brought onto the playground. Thank you for your understanding.

New legal duty to self-isolate came into force Monday 28th September

From today, [people in England will be required by law to self-isolate if they test positive or are contacted by NHS Test and Trace](#). This law has been introduced to ensure compliance with self-isolation rules and to reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Fines will also be introduced from today for those breaching self-isolation rules, starting at £1,000, in line with the existing penalty for breaking quarantine after international travel. This could increase to up to £10,000 for repeat offences and the most serious breaches, including for those preventing others from self-isolating.

New campaign to prevent spread of coronavirus indoors this winter

The ‘**Hands. Face. Space**’ public information campaign urges the public to continue to wash their hands, cover their face and make space to control infection rates and avoid a second peak. There is Government advice and a short helpful video on the gov.uk website: www.gov.uk/government/news/new-campaign-to-prevent-spread-of-coronavirus-indoors-this-winter

Translation of guidance for parents and carers on early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term

The DFE have translated their [guidance for parents and carers with children in nursery, school, or college in the autumn term](#).

The guidance is now available in the following languages:

- [Arabic](#)
- [Bengali](#)
- [Chinese – traditional](#)
- [Chinese – simplified](#)
- [French](#)
- [Gujarati](#)
- [Polish](#)
- [Portuguese](#)
- [Punjabi](#)
- [Romany](#)
- [Somali](#)
- [Turkish](#)
- [Urdu](#)

Nursery Class Places

Do you have a young child aged 2 who will be due to start Nursery next year? We have places available for our Nursery class now for 15 hours and also 30 hour provision.

We are still accepting applications for Nursery places for the next academic year and all future years. If required, the application form can be sent to you electronically and once completed should be brought into school. We also need to see your child’s birth certificate when you bring in the application. Please make sure you apply as soon as possible to get the sessions that you want as 30 hours provision and morning slots are usually in high demand. Forms can also be downloaded at <http://www.stoswaldsnetherton.com/page/key-information/30511>

Homework: 2020/ 2021

It is more important than ever that we work together to ensure the children catch up on all the learning they have missed. We would ask your support in reading as much as possible with your child at home and also supporting them in completing their homework.

Weekly homework will be emailed to you each Friday. Most of the work will be online tasks using IXL, TT Rockstars or Purplemash and should be completed by Tuesday for checking. Your child's homework book will also be sent home on a Friday; this can be used to practise weekly spellings or written tasks may sometimes be expected. Please return this each Tuesday.

Weekly spellings will be sent home each Friday and will be tested on the following Thursday. Reading books can be changed on a Monday or Friday so please only bring book bags into school on these days.

Online Safety

Think U Know have new home activity packs to support parents during COVID-19 and the closure of schools. The packs contain simple 15 minute activities to do with your child to support their online safety. The link below provides access to download your pack.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/>

There are websites available to help parents keep their children safe online – please see:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/legendshome>

https://beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com/en_uk

Christian Values

The children this week have reminded us all about being thankful – even in these very uncertain times of restrictions and possible isolation we still can find things in our lives that we are thankful for. We are certainly thankful for the wonderful children we have to work with.

Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1Thessalonians 5:16-18



A prayer for the new school year

Almighty God,
as we begin this new school year,
we ask for Your blessing on all who study and work
in our school.
May those who are new be helped by those who
are returning.
May we accept new challenges with eagerness,
new risks with courage,
and new insights with openness.
Above all, Lord, assist us, in all our learning,
to do our best
and to grow in understanding of Your world.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen



Yours sincerely,

Miss E. Murtagh
Headteacher

Phased Return Groups – From 2nd September 2020

Year group	room	teacher	TA	Entry/Exit	Play area	Drop off	Pick up	Lunch time	toilets	Lunch staff
Nursery	Nursery	Mrs Gall	Mrs Jones	Browns Lane gate Nursery door Junior playground Mrs Jones on Gate One parent only	Nursery outdoor area	8.30am 12.15pm	11.30am 3.15pm	11.30am in class	Nursery (Numbered)	Mrs Slocombe Mrs T. Jones
R	Reception	Mrs Carr	Mrs Ponting Mrs Harris	Browns Lane Mini bus garage gate. Reception door infant playground One parent only	Reception outdoor area	8.40am	3.00pm	12.10pm – play 12.20-1.10am (in hall)	Reception (Numbered)	
Year 1	Class 1	Mrs Brunyee	Mrs Chiu (am) Miss Lavelle (pm)	Infant Gate Ronald Ross Avenue Year 1 door infant playground One parent only to bring children to class	KS1 playground 10.15am	9.00am	3.15pm	12.10-1.10pm (Dinner in the hall)	Reception (Numbered)	Mrs Rodriguez
Year 2	Class 2	Miss Greenwood	Mrs Jones 1:1 support – Mrs Cranney	Infant Gate Ronald Ross Avenue Year 1 door infant playground One parent only to bring children to class	KS1 playground 10.15am	8.50am	3.05pm	12.10pm – 1.10pm (In class)	Year 2 toilets (Boys/girls)	Mrs Lavelle
Year 3	Class 3	Miss Miller Mrs Lees (am only)	1:1 support – Miss Rodriguez Mrs Harwood (pm only)	Browns Lane Gate Mrs Less on gate – junior playground Children may enter on Ronald Ross main entrance but must leave via Browns Lane	KS2 playground 10.15am	8.45am	3.05pm	12.00pm-1.00pm	Junior toilets (Number 1)	Mr Fairclough
Year 4	Class 4	Mrs Clarke	Mrs Ready 1:1 support (Mrs Harwood)	Browns Lane Gate Ronald Ross main entrance but must leave via Browns Lane	KS2 playground 10.15am	8.55am	3.15pm	12.00pm-1.00pm	Junior toilets (Number 2)	Mrs Parker
Year 5	Class 5	Miss Carter	Mrs Cunningham	Main entrance Ronald Ross Av Usual door Junior playground	KS2 playground 10.00am	8.45am	3.00pm	11.45 – 12.45pm	Junior toilets (Number 3)	Mrs Swords
Year 6	Class 6	Mrs Hughes Miss Murtagh to support Maths	Mrs Booker	Main entrance Ronald Ross Av Usual door Junior playground	KS2 playground 10.00am	8.30am	3.00pm	12,00 – 1.00pm Dinners in class	Junior toilets (Number 4)	Mrs Clarke