



## End of Term Parents Information Newsletter 2020

Following the guidance from DFE we are looking forward to welcoming back the whole school community full time in September. More details will follow regarding this closer to opening in September as we are expecting DFE updates in late August. However, we can confirm that guidelines state that children will be able to wear full school uniform upon their return. During the first two days back in September we will run a transition style timetable to allow the children to settle back in and to get to know their new teachers. Our wrap around care will be back up and running from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September but will not be available on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> September.

We are looking forward to having our St. John's family all back together and to see the children happy and engaging in their learning and re-united with their classmates.

Have a lovely Summer break and stay safe!



Mrs A. Elwell, Head of School

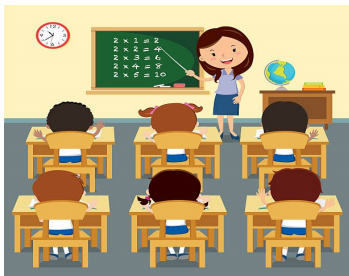




We have missed you so much – it seems like such a long time since we saw you. The school has been so quiet without you and your friends and we are looking forward to you all coming back in September.

Here are some tips on how you can support your child to transition back to school life:

Talk to your child about how they are feeling about going back to school and try not to make assumptions. Ask them if they are worried or feel scared about anything, but also if they are excited about or looking forward to something. No matter how your child feels, let them know that it is completely normal to feel a mixture of emotions and that everyone will be in the same boat. Have a look at more advice on starting a conversation with your child.



Provide your child with as much information about their new routine and school day as you can. This will help them to prepare for any changes that have been made to the timings of their day, the layout of their classroom, their peer groups and playtimes. For some children, it can be really helpful for them to visualise these changes – so ask if there are any pictures to help make things feel more familiar.

Reassure your child. During the lockdown we have been told to stay at home, remain socially distant from others and wash our hands regularly. This means children may find it difficult to go back to school because it will be a huge change from what they have been asked to do during the pandemic. Talk with your child about ways they can stay safe at school, such as washing their hands before and after eating, and reassure them that the school are putting measures in place to keep them safe.



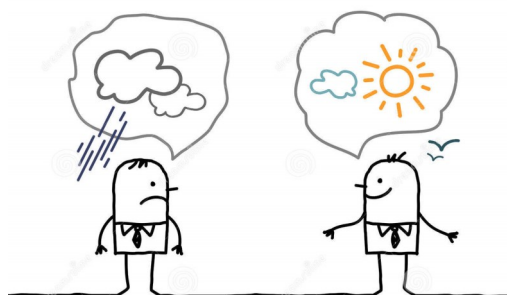
Re-establish a routine to help ease into school life. During lockdown it is understandable that your family's routine may have changed. Children are likely to have been waking up later or going to bed later. To help them get ready for school, try to gradually get them back into their usual morning and bedtime routines as they get closer to their return date.



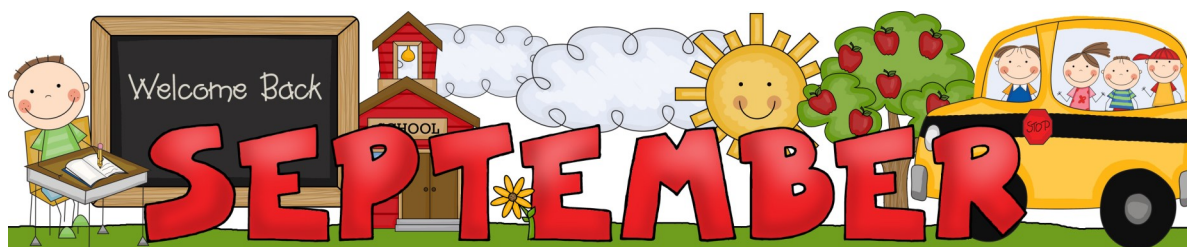
Don't put pressure on yourself. The transition back into school is likely to take some time. Lots of children will experience ups and downs. Try your best to support, reassure and comfort them, without putting pressure on yourself to make sure their homework is done or they settle into a new routine straightaway.



Think ahead. As well as reflecting on what has happened during the past few weeks, it is important to help children develop hope and a sense of excitement for the future. At a time like this, it can be hard to feel positive, but identifying the things that they can look forward to will help them to realise that the current situation won't last forever and their feelings will change.



Seek support if you need it. Transitioning back to school after being in lockdown is no easy task. You may find that your child struggles to get back into school or experiences difficulties while they're at school. If this is the case, reach out to your child's school as soon as you can so that you can make them aware of the challenges and work together to support your child. If you are concerned about your child's mental health and you think they need professional support, speak to the school and your GP about the best next step. Focus on what you have gained, rather than what you have lost. New computing skills, increased independence, family time, discovered new places on walks. Get some rest. When you return in September you will see your friends again. Teachers will help to support your learning and to settle back into the routine of school.



We are pleased to announce the next year form groups are:

### Year 5

Head of Year – Mr. D. Owen

5SW	Miss S. Watts	Room 1
5 LH	Mr. Luke Hill	R2
5AKE	Miss A. Kelly	R3
5MJ	Miss M. Jarvis	R4
5CW	Mrs C. Woodward	R5

### Year 6

Overseeing Year 6 – Mr. R. Upwood, Assistant Headteacher

5MJ go to 6ACJ	Miss A. Carey-Jenkins	R6
5SW go to 6GM	Mr. G. Monaghan	R7
5ECT go to 6KD	Miss K. Devey	R8
5CW go to 6BC	Mr. B. Clements	R9
5KD go to 6RSE	Miss R. Sedgwick	R10
5LH go to 6WW	Mr. W. Warwick	R11

### Year 7

Head of Year – Mrs C. Hirons

6HU go to 7NE	Mr. N. Edwards	R12
6ACJ go to 7MMO	Miss M. Mosseri	R13
6GM go to 7CS	Mr. C. Silvester	R14
6MC go to 7MH	Mr. M. Hackett	R15
6SY go to 7KLN	Miss K. North	R17
6KLN go to 7JD	Dr. J. Dowler	Lab 2

### Year 8

Head of Year – Ms R. Bourne

7JS go to 8MC	Mr. M. Cowdery	R16
7MMO go to 8PM	Mr. P. Marsh	R18
7AME go to 8JCD	Mrs J. Davenport	R19
7JD go to 8MF	Mr. M. Field	Lab 1
7CS go to 8ALK	Miss A. Kendall	R20
7MR go to 8AME	Mr. A. Meehan	R21

### Staff changes for 2020



We are sorry to be saying goodbye to the following members of staff, many of whom are moving on to progress their teaching careers. We thank them for all their hard work, support and commitment during their many combined years at St. John's and wish them all the very best in their new roles.

Mr. K. Hirst—Head of Year 7  
Miss S. Young—Class Teacher  
Miss K. Taylor—Class Teacher  
Mr. J. Swain—Class Teacher  
Miss E. Taylor—Class Teacher  
Mr. M. Ridge—Assistant Head of Mathematics  
Mrs S. Armstrong—Pupils Premium Support



But are pleased to offer a warm welcome to the new members of staff joining our St. John's Family:

Mr. Neil Edwards—Head of History and Geography  
Miss A. Kelly—Class Teacher  
Miss A. Kendall—Class Teacher  
Mr. B. Clements—Class Teacher  
Mr. W. Warwick—Class Teacher  
Mr. M. Hackett—Class Teacher  
Mr. P. Marsh—Class Teacher  
Miss J. O'Donnell—Teaching Assistant



# Healthy Eating and new cash less system for break and lunch

During the next academic year, we would like to continue focusing on the well-being of our pupils and we want to ensure that they have the best fuel inside their bodies to help them learn. As we know from research undertaken by the School Food Trust, eating healthily can positively affect children's behaviour in the classroom. As a school, it is part of our responsibility to help children learn how to eat healthily. We want to ensure that what the children eat at break times in particular is categorised as a healthy snack.



Children need healthy snacks to help them grow and stay healthy. Snacking isn't bad for children, but what they snack on is important. If you give your child healthy snacks now, he or she will learn to make healthy food choices in the future.

Following long discussions amongst staff and our pupil school council, we have created a list of food we categorise as healthy snacks. These include fruit, vegetables e.g. carrot sticks, low sugar cereal bars, low fat string cheese, rice cakes, and whole grain muffins or bagels. Processed, less-healthy snack foods such as

crisps, sugary drinks, sweets and cake are OK to eat once in a while but should not be offered every day. These foods usually have a lot of extra and unnecessary fat, calories, salt and/or sugar. We ask that you save these treats as ones you give at home and not at school.



Whilst we know that the majority of our parents already only provide healthy snacks for their children, it has been brought to our attention that a number of our pupils are attending local shops before school and using their pocket or lunch money to purchase unhealthy and sugary food and snacks. We have sadly seen pupils arriving to school with fizzy drinks and very large packets of sweets and crisps. **If children do have an unhealthy snack from September it will be kept safe for them and they can collect it from the relevant teacher at the end of the day. It will also be logged on Epraise so that parents can monitor.**

In line with our healthy snack policy we will be introducing a new break time snack menu, details of this will be updated onto our website shortly.

From September we are planning to introduce a cashless catering system which is supported through Parent mail, our existing payment scheme. Again, more details will follow.



Our current focus is on the snacks the pupils are eating at break time and in the future we may look at introducing a lunch box policy if this is something we deem necessary.

If your child has a diagnosed medical condition that affects their eating then please inform their class teacher.

We would also like to remind you that children should have water in their water bottles in the classroom. Pupils are able to have a carton of juice in their lunchbox to have at lunchtime if you wish.

Thank you for your support .

## Witley Court and Gardens



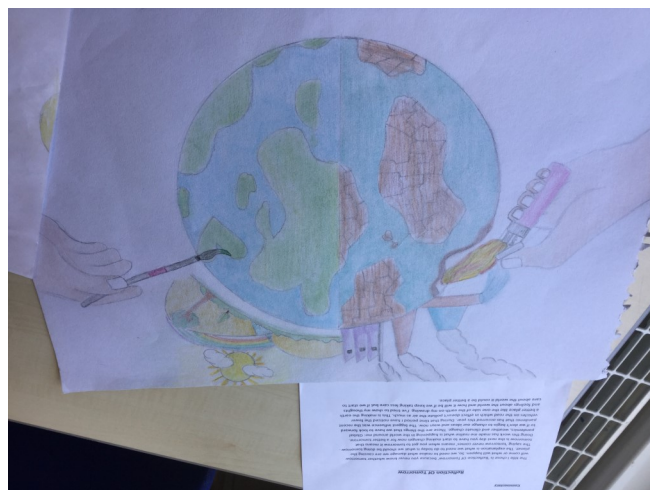
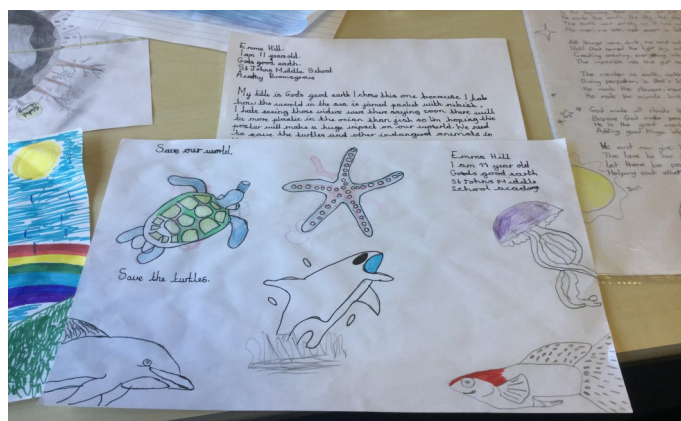
### Year 6 Trip to Witley Court and Gardens

Whilst we hoped to take Year 6 to Witley Court in September this will not currently be possible at this time. The National Heritage establishment is open but due to rules on distancing, travelling together is difficult. We will be using photographs, video and drone footage to deliver the lessons but if you have a spare day in the summer to visit Witley court this would be great. Any photographs or drawing made can be used in the project.

Mrs J. Davenport—Head of Art

## RE Spirited Arts Competition

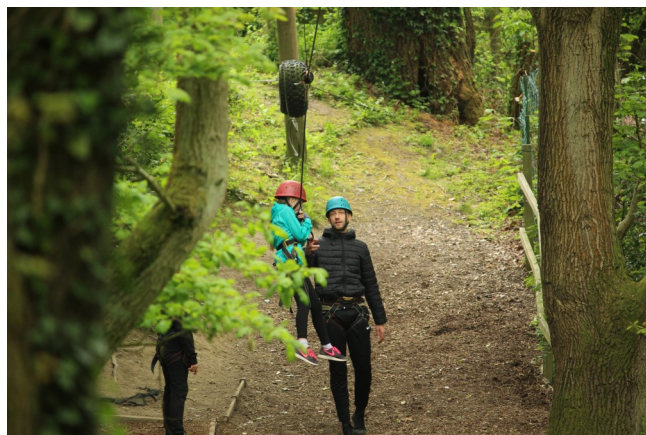
Well Done to everyone who took part in the R.E. Spirited Arts Competition. There have been many fantastic entries and our school's Top Ten entries to the national competition will be announced in September. Mrs C. Woodward, Head of RE



## Year 5 Trip to the Malvern Outdoor Centre

Despite having re-scheduled our Year 5 Malvern residential weekends to September and October due to school closure, unfortunately with the unforeseen longevity of ongoing restrictions, the Department for Education guidance currently advises against any residential school trips in the Autumn term. With the health and safety of all our pupils and staff paramount, we therefore have no alternative but to postpone the trips further till later in the academic year. We are currently in contact with the Malvern Outdoor Centre to see when they may be able to accommodate the trips in the Spring/ Summer terms, when we hope current restrictions will be eased.

We do of course understand that this will cause disappointment for our current Year 5 who have already missed so much of their school time this year, which is why we are so keen to do what we can to keep the trip available to them, albeit it at a later date. We appreciate your support through this time of uncertainty and all look forward to when normality in school can resume. We will of course keep you updated with news of any developments as soon as we can. Mr. D. Owen—Head of Year 5



# Reminders!

We still need to adhere to social distancing and whilst we are allowing more “visitors” into school could we please ask that you ensure your child has all the equipment they need for the school day, including , stationery, a water bottle, lunch and any healthy snacks.

This is important as sharing of resources is still restricted and therefore your child will need a complete set of stationery as we are unable to lend out school equipment. If you are suffering genuine financial hardship in having to supply this equipment please do not hesitate to contact the school as we are always willing to help.

If you do have to bring essential items into school for your child may we ask that you put these items into a plastic bag clearly labelled. These items will then be placed on a table at the back of the school hall and your child’s teacher will be telephoned to inform your child that these items have arrived for collection.

## Extended Services Provision

There will be no Breakfast or After School Provision on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September. Provision will resume on Monday 7th September . Further details of this will be forwarded to all families who have expressed an interest in this provision.

## School Term Dates 2020/2021

### AUTUMN TERM 2020

#### Term Starts

**Tuesday 1st September**

**Staff Professional Development /Pupil Holiday**

**Wednesday 2nd September**

**Staff Professional Development /Pupil Holiday**

**Thursday 3rd September**

**Start of Autumn term for pupils— 8:50 a.m.**

**Friday 23rd October**

**Staff Professional Development /Pupil Holiday**

#### Half Term

**Monday 26th October—Friday 30th October inclusive**

#### Term Ends

**Friday 18th December**

**Break up at 3:15 p.m.**



As you know, the school uses ParentMail, a service used by over 6,000 schools, nurseries and children’s clubs to communicate to parents. We’d like to encourage all parents to download the APP as there are a

#### SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

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Web: [www.st-johns-bromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.st-johns-bromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk)

