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Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm pleased that the past week has run relatively smoothly and we have a lot of happy children coming into school each day. I've spent a lot of time this week visiting the classes and seeing how things are going and it's been great to see the school 'alive' again.

I have also enjoyed seeing our new Year R children in school and they have settled in very well with the support of our excellent Year R team. Next week will be their first full week and I'm sure it will be tiring for them but equally as enjoyable.

### Drop-Off & Pick-Up Routine

Things seem to be working well with this system, there's always a bit of delay with Year 1 at the beginning of the year but that will settle soon.

Next week will bring a different challenge as our Year R children will be starting school and this will naturally create a bottle-neck both at drop-off and pick-up but we have a plan that we used last year and this helped alleviate things slightly.

In the mornings, if you are dropping of a Year R child, please could we ask that you arrive at school no earlier than 8.50am if at all possible. By this time, most of the children and parents have come through and this will mean an easier and less stressful time for us all.

In the afternoon, parents of Year R children may collect their children from 3pm in order to avoid the rush of other parents. However, the other classes will not be releasing their children until 3.15pm so please do not enter the school premises unless you are collecting a sole Year R child – you will not be able to collect children from other year groups.

#### Meet the Team Sessions

Over the next two weeks, our teachers will be holding 'Meet the Team' sessions on Zoom. This will take the normal format of a presentation from the teachers and an opportunity to ask questions that you may have. Zoom invites will be sent out via ParentMail and these meetings will be recorded and placed on the school website for any parents unable to attend. Please note that we will be asking all parents to turn off their video and mute themselves for the duration of the presentation; questions can be asked via the chat function or sent in in advance.

- Year 1: Thursday 16th, 4pm
- Year 2: Tuesday 14th, 4pm
- Year 3: Monday 13th, 4pm
- Year 4: Wednesday 15th, 4.30pm
- Year 5: Tuesday 14th, 4.30pm
- Year 6: Thursday 16th, 4.30pm











#### COVID-19

Please could I remind parents that, whilst schools are open with less restrictions, if your child has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, (even if they're mild) they should:

- Get a PCR test (test that is sent to a lab) to check if they have COVID-19 as soon as possible.
- Your child should stay at home and not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get the test result they can only leave home to have the test. Check if you and anyone else your child lives with need to self-isolate.

It is important that we all adhere to this in order to avoid positive cases in school (which could lead to the reintroduction of bubbles or class closures).

#### Parental Consultations

These will take place across w/c 4<sup>th</sup> October and w/c 11<sup>th</sup> October. For the time being, we are keeping these on Zoom or phone call. More information will be in next week's newsletter.

#### PTA Update

Our PTA have been hard at work updating the PTA page on our school website and we have two events coming up.

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October, we will be hosting a Cheese & Wine evening for all our new Year R parents (non-alcoholic drinks will also be available). This is an opportunity to meet other parents, members of the PTA and, of course, school staff. There is also a quiz night on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November which is a joint fundraiser between the school PTA and SUDC (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood) UK.

Details about these events (as well as a call for volunteers) can be found on the PTA page of our school website.

#### Clubs

I was hoping to have more information about this term's clubs for you by today. Unfortunately, we've had Jacqui absent from school this week and this has impacted our plans. There will be a letter coming home next week about clubs and these will begin from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September and run for 8 weeks (4 weeks before half-term, 4 weeks after).

#### Applying for Secondary Schools (news for Year 6 parents)

Applications for secondary schools are open and close on Monday 1st November (the link is below). If you would like any advice about this then please do not hesitate to contact me.

## https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places#tab-2

If you are considering naming St. Anselm's as an option, they ask that parents get a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) completed including information about faith status and/or baptism with a minister confirming regular religious practice.

Revd. Estella has offered to meet parents who wish to discuss this with her and will be holding two 'drop-in' sessions in the school on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 9am. You are, of course, also welcome to speak to her on Sundays following her church services.

With best wishes,

James Tibbles

## Celebration

### Star Pupils

Each Friday, we celebrate children who have impressed the adults in school either through their learning or demonstrating one of our Christian values.

- Alinda A (1CS) for settling in to her new school and making new friends. *Mrs Smith*
- Senna W (1LA) for trying hard with her formation of numbers in Maths this week. *Miss Andrews*
- ☆ Finley K (2FP) for his excellent evidence and prediction in English! Mrs Franks
- ☆ Evie J (2GD) for showing compassion to others and her excellent attitude towards her learning this week. Mrs Dennett
- ★ Lennon K (3JA) for his positive attitude towards his learning and excellent effort in each lesson. Mr Ablett
- ☆ Oakley E (3SA) for his positive enthusiasm and excellent attitude towards his learning this week. Mrs Amelia

- ★ Lillian M (4JH) for showing compassion to others and working tremendously hard all week. Mr Harris
- ☆ Theo W (4ST) for always trying his best and service to learning by joining in class discussion. Mrs Tomsett
- Amelie N (5HA) for her positive attitude in all areas of learning and being such an active learner. Miss Allison
- ★ Harrison B (5JS) for writing an amazing descriptive paragraph in English and for having a positive start to Year 5. *Miss J Smith*
- ☆ Hugo S (6NA) for starting year 6 with a mature and sensible manner. Mrs Allen
- ☆ Oscar P (6JP) for his eagerness to learn and willingness to help. Mrs Evans

#### Million Word Readers

With the start of a new academic year, comes new chances to become one of our 'million-word readers'. Alongside the inevitable kudos this accolade brings, children are also awarded a gold 'million-word reader' badge and a £10 book voucher which can be redeemed at most book stores.



Get reading!

# **Upcoming Events**

All dates and events can be found on our new school calendar.

**CALENDAR >** 

You are also able to 'subscribe' to the calendar (there is a link underneath the calendar) which means that you can have the school calendar on your phone or tablet and any updates will automatically appear on your device!

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> September		4pm: Yr 3 Meet the Team
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 5/6 Art Group Trip to Folkestone Triennial	4pm: Yr 2 Meet the Team 4.30pm: Yr 5 Meet the Team
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> September		4.30pm: Yr 4 Meet the Team
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> September		4pm: Yr 1 Meet the Team 4.30pm: Yr 6 Meet the Team
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 5/6 Art Group Trip to Folkestone Triennial	

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> September			
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> September			4pm: Year 5 Parents' Meeting re: residential
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September			
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	4ST trip to Creed Activity Centre	4JH Bridge Village Walk	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	4JH trip to Creed Activity Centre	4ST Bridge Village Walk	

Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 Residential (all week)	Kent Music Roadshow (Year 3, 4 and 5)
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> September		
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September		
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> October		2.30pm: Year R Welcome Service at St. Peter's Church
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> October		

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Parental Consultations (days TBC)	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> October		
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October		
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> October		6pm: PTA Cheese & Wine for New Year R parents
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> October		