



Kirkstall St Stephen's

Church of England Aided Primary School
Head teacher : Mr Steven Viles

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Friday 17th July 2020

RE: Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome to the final newsletter of the 2019-2020 academic year, and what a strange one it has been! This is not the way any of our staff would have liked to end this academic year, however we hope it will make our pupils look forward to returning to school in September all the more. We will certainly be happy to have everyone back!

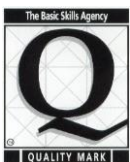
Message from Mr Viles:

"It seems incredibly strange and sad not to be finishing the school year off in St Stephen's Church and saying our final good-byes to our Year 6s. I have sent a little message into them today to be read out to them but it is not quite the same. I am certain that they will handle the next stage in their ever so young lives very well indeed as they move up to their respective high schools and grasp all the opportunities and new experiences that come their way. We are ever so proud of them.

To the rest of the children; I have missed you all so much – to those children that have been back in school over the last few weeks- all I keep hearing about is how incredibly grown up and sensible you have all been. To those that have not been back in school it will be great to see everybody again in September. Some of the home learning that you have been doing is quite simply amazing.

Miss Barnett sent a letter out last week explaining how everybody will be able to return to school in September. By now you all know who your teachers will be and they are really excited to get started in September.

I would like to thank all the parents for their patience and understanding in these incredibly difficult and challenging times and I wanted to let you know that I will be back in school in September. I would also like to thank Miss Barnett, the rest of the school staff and school governors for all their efforts, hard work and support over these last few months."



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Year 6 Leavers' Service

We couldn't have the real thing, so we have created a lovely little video for the Year 6 leavers. It's been wonderful having you in our school and we do hope that when it's safe to do so again- some of you will pop back and update us on how you are getting on. We don't stop caring about you just because you've left! We hope to see you at some point next year for a belated reunion/Oscars party!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NvjRgdRNwK4>

Sue Hudson Retirement

Yesterday Sue Hudson, the Pre School Manager left to begin her next chapter- retirement. Sue has been working at Kirkstall St Stephen's for over 16 years after starting out working in school as a member of support staff. We are delighted that Sue is planning on staying on at our school as a Governor. We wish her the very best of luck for the future.

Inner West Leeds Uniform Exchange

We are pleased to announce that we are working in partnership with Leeds City Council Inner West Community Committee to facilitate a uniform swapping service.

Students will be able to take part in our new sustainability challenge to earn their bronze, silver and gold awards for climate action! Just a couple of the ways that they can earn points towards this is by donating and using preloved uniform. The uniform needs to be donated at any of the following locations.

Kirkstall St Stephen's School- Special Wheelie Bin drop off next to the bike sheds (it is a brand new bin!)
Kirkstall Valley Development Trust, Bridge Road
Revive Store at the recycling point

These donations need to be clean and will be left in the donation box for the 72 hours to ensure that they are covid free for everyone's safety. You will be able to access and order pre loved uniform in the sizes you need, and gain more points for the challenge, we will be taking orders through the following website; www.inner-west-uniform-exchange.co.uk which will go live **in early August!** Once you have ordered the uniform you need, this will be delivered to you by volunteers from one of our community organisations. Thank you to Cllr Hannah Bithell, for her efforts in coordinating this.

Kirkstall Valley Development Trust, Bridge Road

KVDT are still able to provide food parcels to families in need, ring 0113 378 1877 or email help@KVDT.org.uk and someone should be able to assist you.

Summer Reading

Please ensure all children read regularly through the summer holidays. It is a fantastic way to boost knowledge, skills and vocabulary, let alone get lost in the world of books.

Leeds Libraries Summer Reading Challenge

This year's summer reading challenge from 'The Reading Agency' will celebrate funny books, happiness and laughter. Children taking part in the online challenge will join the Silly Squad; an adventurous team of animals who love to have a laugh and get stuck in to all different kinds of funny books! Books may be 'borrowed' from a virtual library from the 'Leeds Library Services Borrowbox', details of which are here in the link to the Leeds for Learning website newsletter;

<http://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk/Article/76728>

Clarification

We have been asked by a member of our community to clarify who is permitted to drop off and collect pupils from school from September onwards. When we have written to parents/carers we are covering not only parents and legal guardians, but also siblings, grandparents, child minders or other trusted adults- you as a parent allow to bring/collect your child/children to/from school. If your child is going to be collected by an adult who is not familiar with our school staff, we kindly ask that you inform staff prior of your arrangement.

Consent Form

Part of our Covid-19 Risk Assessment asks that we update all medical and dietary information before your child's return to school in September. This should take a few minutes, please complete this digital form. Thank you in advance:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=_THXih4xTUeS2iFJoA3djqvwwFfpVyhEjp6pg-UOwyBUNzc2NVJUN1ZUWjg1TFdZNUNLWjhDVktESi4u

A Final Thank You!

I would lastly like to thank all our pupils, their families and everyone in our community who have supported us in one way or another. Your kind words, smiles and emails have been really appreciated through these difficult times.

Our staff team have also been incredible across all areas of school -I am amazed at how well everyone has adapted and changed their roles to ensure our new procedures work to keep our pupils safe. A special mention to our cleaning staff who have done an amazing job, working increased hours and being flexible as needed. As a school leader I'm really proud of everyone.

I hope you all have an amazing summer. We very much look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 8th September.

Best Wishes

Miss Barnett

Deputy Head Teacher



