



11th September 2020

Newsletter No. 120

St Dunstan's, Cheam, C of E Primary School

– WELCOME –

BACK TO SCHOOL

Welcome to our first Newsletter of the new school year!

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your patience, understanding and co-operation as we all settle into the routines of our 'new normal'.

The children are now fully back in the swing of distancing and separation within school and it really is an absolute joy to have the whole school back together again. The children have been so incredibly adaptable and accepting of the new classroom set up and in-school routines; they really are amazing!

I would please urge you to ensure you are also socially distancing outside the school gates. It has become so much calmer this week as you are successfully spreading the times of your arrival – thank you so much! I cannot stress enough the importance of respecting socially distancing measures – many schools have already needed to close 'Bubbles' or, indeed, entirely and so we need to reduce the contact we all have as much as possible and preserve the integrity of our school 'Bubbles'. Once again, thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

I am delighted to share with you some photographs and reports of what life has been like within our classes and hope you enjoy!

Ms J Corby, Headteacher



Reception children have enjoyed their first two days at school. We have been very busy making new friends and getting to know our teachers.



Year 1 have had a great start to the school year. We enjoyed learning more about each other and what makes us special. We all

created our own self portrait that are on display in our classrooms.



Welcome to Year 2! We are all so happy to have the children back together. During the first few days we reflected on events during lockdown, celebrating our successes and discussing ways we can now move forwards positively and safely. To launch our new topic 'Wriggle and Crawl' this week we have been exploring different habitats around the school and identifying mini beasts that live there. We have been revising our counting and place value in Maths, using concrete materials to help us and in English we are writing a story about the different ways we can social distance and have fun at the same time.



Year 3 What an exciting week we've had already! The children went on a footprint hunt around the playground to see if they could work out which print belonged to which animal. It was then back inside to discuss their findings and discuss whether they thought the animals were predators or prey. We extended this even further by learning more key vocabulary in science and sorting animals into these groups: consumer, producer, apex predator and decomposer.



Year 4 It has been such a joy to welcome the children in Orion and Pegasus class back to school. We have settled into a nice little routine and the children have been responding positively to all aspects of school life. Learning activities have been planned in a way that children are being given the opportunity to revisit some concepts introduced in Year 3, allowing them to refresh their knowledge. This week in Maths, we have worked on understanding place value in four-digit numbers; in English, we have been looking at the features of a soliloquy, and we have also started writing one example as a Roman soldier on the night before battle. We have also done Yoga and Athletics outside, making use of the lovely school grounds! It has been a very busy week, and the children have contributed and learned so much already; we are all very proud of them!

It has been great for us to welcome back **Year 5**. We have settled in well to our routine and been enjoying our new topic "Peasants, Princes and Pestilence". We were all able to become Pestilence in human form and have written some amazing narratives in character! As part of our History and Geography lessons, it was essential to understand how the plague began and spread across Europe and then finally to England. During PE lessons, we have taken part in yoga and athletics, making the most of the good weather and our great outdoor space. It has been a great first week back and everyone has worked very hard in their lessons.

Year 6 have settled beautifully into the new school year and have been enjoying time out in the sunshine practising their athletics skills. We broke down the discipline of the triple jump into the separate elements of hop, skip and jump and demonstrated these skills during team relay races. The children all worked hard to further develop their skills and identified how to create the most effective movements. Well done everyone.



We hope you all had a safe and relaxing summer. We are currently liaising with the school with regard to possible fundraising opportunities and school community events over the coming months and will provide further information in due course.



We are hoping that one of the events will be to hold a uniform sale before the change over of uniform after the October half term and so if you have any second hand inform you would like to donate then we would be grateful if you could hold onto it for now. *Thank you PTFA*

God be in my head, and in my understanding.

God be in my eyes, and in my looking.

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking.

God be in my heart, and in my thinking.

Help us, Lord, to remember that you are with us in all that we do.

You are our refuge and our strength. Amen



Scooters

Increasing numbers of children are now coming to school on their scooters and the scooter park is getting very full!

As you are all aware, no one should be touching anything that does not belong to them and, therefore, I request your help in order to keep our children as safe as possible:

If you are able to take your child's scooter home after drop-off and bring it back at pick up, this would be very helpful in ensuring there is enough space to store the scooters safely. Please could you also remind your children they are to PUSH their scooter at all times whilst on school property. *Many thanks in advance.*

House Points

St Andrew

260

St George

301

St David

249

St Patrick

273

Home Learning: Please ensure that your child is reading at home everyday. For KS1 and KS2, specific homework tasks will be set from **next week**. We will not be using physical homework books, but would like the pupils to access and complete their homework tasks using the online learning platform **J2e**. Homework tasks will be **set on Thursdays** and should be completed by the time the children arrive at school on **Tuesdays**. Further information and guidance will be sent out via ParentMail shortly.

Please click [here](#) for 'Using J2e for home learning—A Guide for pupils and Parents and Carers'.



'St Dunstan's
Superstars' of the last week'

All Children

**For showing a really
positive attitude
to the start of
term and for all
their**



**achievements
since March.**



Reminder!

If your child is **absent** from school for any reason, please ensure that you call the school office to notify the school.

- Please ensure that the **Flu Immunisation Consent Form** is returned to your child's class teacher. The immunisation is being carried out on Thursday 24th September.
- Please note that the back gate is only to be used for children/parents to **EXIT** the school at the end of the day.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Dates may be subject to change)

September

Monday 14th First Day for Nursery

Thursday 24th Flu Immunisations for Rec—Year 6 Children

October

Friday 23rd School Closed—INSET Day

Mon 26th—Fri 30th Half Term

Mon 2nd School Closed—INSET Day

December

Fri 18th Break Up for Christmas at 1.30pm