



The Village
Stockton on the Forest
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26th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all keeping well and that you have been enjoying the warm, sunny weather.

School Update

Due to increased staffing capacity, we have been able to invite another 'bubble' of children to return to school from Monday 29th June. This bubble will consist of Reception and Year One key worker children and will be taught by Mr Mckenna and Mrs Hodgkinson in Pines classroom. Mrs Rooney and Mrs Cressey will continue to teach Bubble 2 in the school hall and Miss Collins and Miss Bell in Willows room. I'm really looking forward to getting to know some more Stockton on the Forest families and delighted that we can open up to more children before the summer.

It is imperative that one parent/carer continues to drop off and collect and that social distancing guidance is still adhered to. **Please be prompt at drop off and collection times as we now have three groups to safely direct through school.** If you have formed a bubble with another family, who may be collecting your child, please inform school of this via email thank you.

If your child or anyone within the same household has coronavirus symptoms, they must not come into school until they have been tested and school has been given a copy of a negative test result.

School in September

The Department for Education will publish further information and guidance to help schools prepare for a full return in September, we expect this to be released next week. York Local Authority have no expectation that the next set of guidance will have any impact on the rest of this term; it is likely that it will all be about full opening in September. As soon as we have any more information, we will update you. Until then school continues to plan for a number of possible scenarios. We plan to send school reports to you, via email, on Friday 10th July, along with information regarding your child's class and teacher for the academic year 2020/21.

For the present, it is important to remember that current guidance relating to primary schools includes the following statements:

It is still important to reduce contact between people as much as possible, so children, young people and staff where possible, should only mix in a small, consistent group and that small group should stay away from other people and groups.

Desks should be spaced as far apart as possible. Schools should continue to operate in groups of no more than 15 and maintain the hierarchy of measures:

- 1. avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms*
- 2. frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices*
- 3. regular cleaning of settings*
- 4. minimising contact and mixing*

If you can keep older children within those small groups 2 metres away from each other, you should do so.

Year 6 Leavers' Celebration

An outdoor Leavers' Assembly, with Miss Lynwood, is being planned for our Year 6 pupils. More information will follow once the latest safety guidance has been released. Please pencil in a provisional date of Wednesday 15th July at 2pm and we will be in touch with further information.

Last day of School

The last day of term will be Friday 17th July. School will be closed on Monday 20th July for a training day and then closed for the summer break. Information has not yet been released for provision for child care over the summer and as yet we do not know in what capacity summer clubs will be running. We will keep you up to date with any developments as they occur.

Training Days (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)

School will be closed for training purposes as planned on Friday 20th July and Monday 7th September. We have also brought forward a training day **from Friday 23rd July 2021 to Tuesday 8th September 2020 instead**. This is to allow additional time to plan for any changes relating to school organisation which may be announced over the summer break.

Home Learning

Miss Lynwood will now be liaising with class teachers and managing the home learning for all children still working at home. She will give feedback where pertinent but please allow Miss Lynwood time to check your work and make comments.

Online education resources for home learning

This package of resources has been expanded and has also added advice and information for parents.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources>

Another great site to support phonics is 'Phonics Play' which is great for games and is currently free to access.

The Education Endowment Foundation also has published some useful resources and advice: <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/covid-19-resources/support-resources-to-share-with-parents/>

Research carried out by the Education Endowment Fund has also shown that *there was no benefit in carrying out remote teaching via live lessons over teaching via materials that have been prepared in advance*. Instead, they found out that what mattered was the quality of materials used, which is what we are trying to focus on. Following an email consultation of Headteachers across City of York Schools (Friday 12th June 2020), all 28 schools that responded, stated that they did not use 'live online teaching'. We will continue to monitor how this situation progresses.

A CHANCE FOR 1ST PLACE!!

We are currently in second place in the North Yorkshire Athletics competition. They have extended the deadline so, if you haven't already, you can enter here <https://www.koboca.co.uk/virtual-competition-athletics-pentathlon/?q=1CDGFEPCC1L4>

We can do this Stockton on the Forest!

<http://www.koboca.co.uk/tennis-virtual-competition-east-york/?q=W8H47RVV>

If you have a tennis racket at home then you may also want to complete the Tennis challenge! Deadline for both is 29th June.

Another assembly and a fun activity from Reverend Nick Bird

We are pleased to bring you another assembly, which is the story of Noah's Ark, which can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vf7z9jMdH1g>

Lisa Horton, our Children and Families Worker, has also produced an 'Around the World' Quiz, brought to you by Moses!: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqPCeilQsdw&t>
The accompanying sheet with pictures on for writing answers is attached.

Thank you Reverend Nick and Lisa!