



# AUTUMN

## 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

*Nurturing each and all. Guiding, Trusting, Inspiring and Celebrating*

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is so lovely to welcome all the children back in to school after what was a difficult end to the first half of term. Thank you so much for your co-operation at drop off and pick up times. We really appreciate you wearing face masks and social distancing at the school gate and hope that we can all stay safe and well for the rest of this term.

Last week was busy with both Remembrance Day and Children in Need. The children have produced some wonderful poppy-themed art and a wreath was laid at the village memorial on behalf of the school and the children observed the two minute silence in their classes. Children in Need provided a fun opportunity for the children to come to school in clothes of their choice whilst raising valuable funds for the charity. Thank you for your support and we will inform you of the sum raised on our next newsletter.

This week is Anti-Bullying Week and across the school children have been thinking about being *United Against Bullying*.



### STAFF ABSENCE

Unfortunately, we still have some very poorly staff, who are struggling with the after effects of the virus. We have been very fortunate to secure two excellent supply teachers to give consistency for the children until their usual teachers return.

**LOVELL CLASS** – We have welcomed Mr Simon Burchill, who is teaching Year 5/6 until Lovell staff are well enough to return to school. The children are learning well and benefitting from his many years of experience.

**DOVECOTE CLASS** – Mrs Julia Edwards has been teaching Year 1 on Thursdays and Fridays since September and will continue to do so until the Christmas break. She has built good relationships with the children and has fitted in well with the staff.

We really hope the team will be back together by the end of this term and we would like to thank you for your support and concern at this difficult time. Please rest assured that the school continues to thrive and the children are continuing to flourish.

### NUT FREE SCHOOL

Please be reminded that we are a nut-free school.  
We are asking for your help to maintain our safe school environment.



## GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Please remember to regularly access Google Classroom to ensure that you retain your logins and passwords. Key Stage 2 children are using Google Classroom for their homework and Key Stage 1 are using it for weekly spellings. The Government require all children to take part in online learning if they are in class or family isolation. We will expect children to engage with this and submit work when requested.

Your child's Google Classroom page has a link to Oak Academy, which we will be following:

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/schedule-by-year>. Daily maths and literacy lessons are there along with science and topics. You will also find additional work specific to your child's class posted here.

Instructions on how to upload documents/images into Google Classroom can be found on the newsletter page of the website.

## RECEPTION PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

Unfortunately, like all schools, we have been unable to hold our open mornings for families to come and see us in action and meet our fabulous teachers. If you have a child, who is eligible to start school next September and you wish for further information about our wonderful school, please contact the school office. Reception school places need to be applied for by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

## COMMUNICATION

If you have a concern, or need to speak to your child's class teacher, then please contact us through the following channels:

- Messages can be relayed via the staff member on the gate in the morning
- The best route, during the school day, is to email the school office. Messages can be passed on to teachers, who will then get back to you when they are not teaching. Please email: [office.3125@st-kenelms.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3125@st-kenelms.oxon.sch.uk)
- You can phone on 01993 775394 and leave a message on the answerphone.

## A REMINDER OF COVID SYMPTOMS:

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

## COVID TESTS

Please be reminded that if your child takes a test, the whole household need to isolate until the test result is received.

Please ensure that you notify the school if your child has taken a test and send the result through when you receive it.

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The kitchen is planning a Christmas lunch for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. This year, it will take the form of party/buffet-style food rather than the traditional meal to make it easier to transport to individual classes. Food will be bagged separately for each child. Further details to follow. Children will have parties within their own class bubbles on this day.

Thank you for your continued support. Please be vigilant and remain safe.

Best wishes.

*Catherine South*