

High Academic Standards: Sporting Opportunities: Caring Relationships: Musical Excellence: Christian Values

Dates for the Diary

11 May (TBC)	3.50pm - 5.50pm Parent child and teacher meeting on teams
Thursday 13 May (TBC)	3.50pm - 7pm Parent child and teacher meeting
Friday 14 May	Pyjamarama
26 – 28 July	INSET days

Dear Parents,

We are really looking forward to seeing you all again on Monday, 8 March. We continue to receive guidance from the Department for Education and the Local Authority, and I would like to reassure you all that the safety and well-being of your children on their return to school is our main priority. You are very welcome to contact me to discuss any concerns or worries that you, or your children, may have.

We will spend the first few weeks settling back in to school. We are aware that it has been a long time since many children were in the classroom, and that some children may be feeling anxious about the return to school. We will give the children the opportunity to talk about their feelings and concerns in class, or in a small group situation if they need to. We also want to give them the opportunity to celebrate the wonderful work they have been doing, both at home and at school, so will spend some time reviewing what we have all been doing over the past few weeks.

I have been directed to continue working from home until 31st March. Mr Asplin will continue to manage the school for any issues which arise in the day. Mrs Chadbourne, Mrs Tuxford and Mrs Buttle have also been directed to work from home.

Thank you to everyone who joined in with our World Book Day celebrations. The junior classes really enjoyed joining Michael Rosen live on a zoom call and the infants will be joining Jo Empson tomorrow.

If you have any questions regarding your child's education please email me and I will respond by email or phone call as soon as possible.

Warmest wishes

Mr Hopwell

PE Days

Class R	Tuesday	Thursday
Class 1	Monday	Tuesday
Class 2	Wednesday	Thursday
Class 3	Wednesday	Monday
Class 4	Tuesday	Friday
Class 5	Thursday	Friday
Class 6	Monday	Friday

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Supporting a child returning to school after lockdown

After being off school for so long, it's only natural that many young people will be worried about returning to school. Here are some tips from our Parents Helpline team on how you can support your child to transition back to school life:

- **Talk to your child about how they are feeling** about going back to school. Let them know that it is completely normal to feel a mix of emotions and that every child will be in the same boat.
- **Provide your child with as much information as possible about their new routine and school day.** For younger children, it can be helpful for them to visualise changes - so ask your child's school if they can send pictures to make things feel more familiar.
- **Reassure your child that the school are putting measures in place to keep them safe.** Talk with your child about the ways they can stay safe at school e.g. washing hands
- **Reestablish a routine to help ease into school life.** Try to gradually get them back into their usual morning/bedtime routines as they get closer to their return date.
- **Don't put pressure on yourself.** Try your best to support, reassure and comfort your child, without putting pressure on yourself to make sure their homework is done or to settle back into a routine straight away.
- **Think ahead.** At a time like this, it can be hard to feel positive, but identifying things children can look forward to will help develop hope and a sense of excitement for the future.
- **Seek support if you need it.** Transitioning back to school is no easy task. You may find your child struggles to get back into school. If this is the case, reach out to your child's school so you can work together. If you are concerned about your child's mental health and you think they need professional support, speak to the school and your GP about the next best step.

External links

- [Returning to school after the lockdown \(Nip in the Bud website\)](#)
- [Supporting children returning to school after the lockdown factsheet \[PDF\]](#)
- [Tips on returning to school \(YouTube\)](#)
- [Coronavirus: Back to school for primary schools \(BBC Teach\)](#)
- [Supporting your child's return to school \(TheSchoolRun website\)](#)
- [Parent Club: Advice on how to support your child returning to school with head teacher Kevin Brack \(YouTube\)](#)

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Newsletter from Annie and All at St Swithuns

Hello All, how has your week been? I hope you have had a good time and are getting really excited about everyone returning to School next Monday. How have you been getting on with your Lent Challenge?

I hope you have had fun and it has helped as we move through this time of Lent together. I know this week you are joining in with World Book Day and have enjoyed sharing your favourite books with each other. It made me think about books I like reading and also like reading with my Grandchildren. Harry loves The Diary of a Wimpy Kid books and Daisy as she is not quite 3 yet we have fun reading her Hairy Maclary stories by Lynley Dodd and the great book The Tiger who came to Tea, such fun, not sure who enjoys them more!!!

It also made me think of books I have enjoyed, there is so much choice History Books, Poetry Books, Practical books on how to do things, a whole library full. Talking of Libraries there is one book which is like a library. It contains books on all of these things, it is one of the most purchased books and you don't need a huge bookshelf to keep it on. Can you guess what it is?


Yes, Well Done it is the Bible. It contains History books, Poetry Books, Information books, Instruction books and Autobiographies this is about people and their lives. The Bible tells us all about Jesus life and His love for us. It is probably my favourite book because it has so many stories in it about so many people and events.

Perhaps you have a favourite Bible story, have a think there are so many. One I really like is the story of Jonah and the Big Fish, how he was a bit scared about telling people about God and his love for them, about how he ran away but how God brought him back and helped him do the things He wanted him to do. It reminds me of myself, sometimes I get scared about telling others about God, but I have learnt just like Jonah that God will help me do it at the right time in the right way and not to be afraid and also how to care for others and help them. I am hoping soon that I will be able to come back into School and share more of those stories with you. There are also many stories of amazing Acts of Random Kindness in the Bible too. People who have helped others just like you do. I really look forward to hearing about them.

I know we have lots to share again this week. Just like the people in the Bible who were inspiring so are you.

I also love sharing the jokes too. I have just bought Roald Dahl's Marvellous Joke Book it is for Harry really but perhaps before I give it to him Mr Hopwell might let me share a joke out of it. What do you think? Watch this space!!!

As always, our prayers surround you and all who make up Woods School. Take care. God Bless. Speak soon.

Annie <:)))><... 

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Prayer

If you would like to make this prayer your own, then please say the Amen at the end.

We thank you Lord for the Bible full of so many stories of encouragement and help and amazing stories about you and your love for everyone.

Thank you that it is freely available to us. We think of all those places where it is not and pray that soon they too will be able to enjoy it.

We thank you for all those who write stories and share them with us and thank you for how we can share our stories too. Thank you for all those who help us learn to read and appreciate books.

Be with each of us Lord and our families as we all start to return to School next week, may we remember to look after each other and to keep on staying safe. Thank you, Jesus, **Amen.**

Twice weekly testing for households

From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household of a primary aged pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

Please note that **primary school pupils will not be asked to test at this time.**

[education](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?priority-taxon=774cee22-d896-44c1-a611-e3109cce8eae>

Multi Sports Club

Mr Robinson would like to re-start the multisports clubs after school. We will need to organise the club according to class bubbles so this may take some logistical working out. Please can you email admin@ if you would like to express your interest in your child attending this after school provision. The cost is £3.50.

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