



St Michael's CE VC Primary School

Let Your Light Shine

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Dear parents,

So here we are at the end of another school year – and what a momentous and challenging one it has been! Well done to our whole school community - children, parents, staff and governors – for working together to get through these unprecedented times. On the next page of this letter you will find an update from Miss Bracken (soon to be Mrs Prendergast) with some details for September.

Farewell and Thank you!



The last few days have been very emotional ones. As that great philosopher Winnie the Pooh said: ‘How lucky I am having something that makes saying goodbye so hard’. We had a lovely Leavers’ Service for the whole school on the field on Tuesday, where we sang together and presented Year 6 with their lovely Leavers’ Books (well done to Mrs Wilson for a super job!). After school we had our staff farewell tea party (outside, socially distanced!), where there were presentations for various staff leaving, including myself. Today we had a final zoom assembly where more videos were shared, and we reflected together on the many good times we have had over the years.

I am overwhelmed by the gifts that I have received, both individually and collectively, and want to thank you all so much for your kindness and generosity. From the staff I received, amongst many other things, a fabulous new banjo which I will get to grips with as soon as possible. One of the gifts from the governors was a collection of the complete works of Mozart – I will absolutely love working my way through all those CDs. From the parents I have had absolutely super gifts, including a new Samsung Tablet (all that free time to spend on games!), a new BBQ (hoping this weather continues) and a large voucher for hotel stays (more free time to spend!).

Thank you all so so much. It has been a pleasure and a delight to have known so many of you over so many years. There are at least two parents here that I taught myself, and several staff members who I remember as children here themselves. The strength of our community is the value that we put on the people here – and above all how we always put children first.

I look forward to hearing all of the news next year, and I’m very confident that I leave the school in excellent hands as we wait for Mr Barnard’s arrival in January. Look out for me in Meade Park and Forty Acres as I walk my dog (I’ll be out even more in future!) Have a great summer, and best wishes for the last time,

Mark Freeman, Headteacher

Plans for September: Miss Bracken writes:

We have been busy making plans ready for September and we're looking forward to welcoming the children back into their new classes. Staff will be having an INSET day on Thursday 2nd September and so pupils' first day back to school will be on Friday 3rd September. This first day back will introduce the children to their new teacher's routines and expectations so please do ensure your child attends.

Following the results of this year's parent survey we have made the decision to have a slightly staggered start and end to the school day. Essentially there are just two start times: 8.50 and 9.00, and two finish times: 3.20 and 3.30. There will be no need for one-way systems any more, although we will keep these under review once term starts. Child are encouraged to start coming in 10 mins before their start time, as now. The new timings are listed below:

Year Group	Enter Through	Door Opens	Day Starts	Exit Through	Day Ends
Reception (Group A)	R.1: Small Hall Door R.2: Class Door R.3: Main Door by 3.1	8.50	9.00	R.1: Ramp R.2: Class Door R.3: Class Door	11.30
Reception (Group B)		12.35	12.45		15.15
Reception Once full-time from (13 th Sept)		8.40	8.50		15.20
1	Class Doors	8.50	9.00	Class Doors	15.30
2	2.1: Class Door 2.2: Class Door 2.3: Main Door by 3.1	8.40	8.50	2.1: Class Door 2.2: Class Door 2.3: Main Door by 3.1	15.20
3	3.1: Main Door by 3.1 3.2: Door into H Block 3.3: Class Fire Door	8.50	9.00	3.1: Class Door 3.2: Class Door 3.3: Year 4 H Block Door	15.30
4	Year 4 H Block Door	8.40	8.50	Year 4 H Block Door	15.20
5	Year 5 Door	8.50	9.00	Year 5 Door	15.30
6	6.1: Kitchen Door 6.2: Large Hall Door 6.3: Large Hall Door	8.40	8.50	6.1: Kitchen Door 6.2: Large Hall Door 6.3: Large Hall Door	15.20

To avoid your child being marked as late children will need to be in their classroom by the time their year group's day starts. Please note that because each year group's doors will open ten minutes before their start time it should be possible for families to drop off siblings in different year groups without having to wait around. For example, if you had a child in Year 2 and Year 5 you could drop your Year 2 child off at 8:45 and then walk around to your Year 5 child's classroom and drop them off at 8:50 – this way neither of your children would be marked as late and you wouldn't need to wait around in between drop-offs. We will provide a map of the various classroom entrances and exits towards the end of the summer holidays.

We envisage that most of the current restrictions will end, including class bubbles and limitations on assemblies and singing. Lunchtimes will return to their former lengths (1 hour), and most clubs should restart in due course. We hope that over the course of the year we will also be able to work on our much-delayed production of 'Suessical – the Musical'.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable summer holidays,

Miss Bracken and the Leadership Team