



### Be COVID Aware

Do not come onto school site if you have any Coronavirus symptoms, & get tested. Maintain social distancing at all times. The symptoms are:

- High temperature
- New, continuous cough
- Loss of or change to sense of smell or taste

## Newsletter 12th March, 2021

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### **'A Rainbow will always appear in the clouds'**

Our school is built around the rainbow, which symbolises God's promise firstly to Noah, and then throughout the Bible, His promise to love us all, which we translate into school as our promise to love your children. We talk to the children about this promise, and we talk about how the rainbow and the love of God and each other can support us all as we journey together. We share our values in all we do: hope, peace, joy, forgiveness, compassion, honesty, patience, perseverance, koinonia, and, of course, love. We talk to the children about how, just like a rainbow appears in the clouds after a storm, so, too, do things get better after we experience 'life storms' - we make mistakes, things get tough, but we have hope, knowing that things will get better.

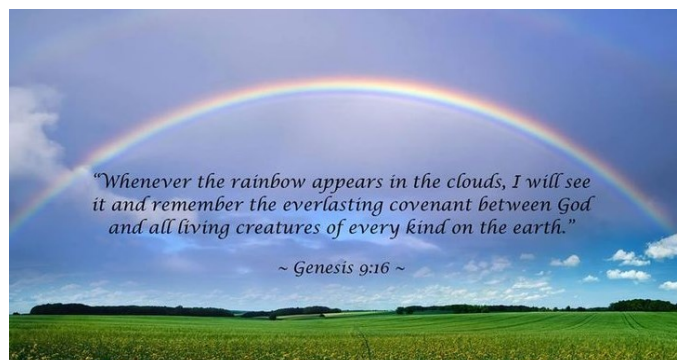
This week, the rainbow has appeared following the storm of another Lockdown and weeks of remote learning. That rainbow, of course, is your children returning to school. And, how lovely it has been this week—to all be back together where we belong. I asked the staff what they've enjoyed most this week and they told me:

- Watching the children play together outside
- Seeing the children greet their friends
- Smiling faces each morning
- Coming back together and working as a team
- Positive attitudes and working so hard on every task set
- Big, smiling faces!
- Watching the children skip down the drive every morning
- Watching them catch up and play together
- Coming together at lunchtimes, chatting and being so polite
- The excitement when they first saw all their friends again on Monday!
- Working together in teams, as if they'd never been away
- Meeting all the children in my class for the first time
- The noise! The sounds of enjoyment

I know your children have enjoyed being back in school and we have all been so impressed by their positivity and enthusiasm— thank you for all you've done to help your children return—it's so good to see the rainbow return and be back where we belong!

Very best wishes,

Maria and all the team at St James'



## COVID INFORMATION

Whilst it's good we're returning back to a level of normality, we all need to continue to be COVID-aware—none of us want to see another Lockdown or any sort of school/class closure.

Please remember that no-one displaying symptoms of the virus should come anywhere near school. Also important is that you remember to **maintain social distancing** rules when on or around the school site and that, out of respect for everyone, you **wear a face covering** when on the school site.

Remember that only **one adult should come on site** to collect children, and where younger siblings must accompany a parent, they should be kept by their carers side; older siblings should wait off-site.

Please do not speak with staff at collection times; if you need to speak with your child's teacher, please either email or telephone the school office.

Children should not return to classrooms if they have forgotten something, if it is an urgent item, then please walk round to the school office and a member of staff will recover it for you. This is so we can maintain a one-way system.

**Please adhere to the timings for arrival and pick up**, so that we can reduce the numbers of people entering and leaving the site:

8.40-8.45 Robins, Whinchats and Canaries

8.45-8.50 Siblings

8.50-8.55 Green Jays, Kingfishers, Peacocks, Sabrewings

3.25 Robins, Whinchats, Canaries collection

3.30 Siblings collection – collect youngest child from class, oldest child(ren) from pedestrian gate (if all siblings are in Years 4, 5 and 6, collect them from the class)

3.35 Green Jays, Kingfishers, Peacocks, Sabrewings

### **PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE TOO EARLY OR TOO LATE**

Please see the latest letter from the Director of Public Health. In it is information regarding Lateral Flow Testing which is now available for all household with primary, secondary and college aged children, including how you can access these within Bedford Borough. If you use these and test positive, then you and your household must follow self-isolation guidelines and arrange a PCR test.

If your child needs to self-isolate, there are two week remote learning plans on the school website for each class. If you will need these printed, then please contact the school office. If we send home a class, we will endeavour to print these out to come home with each child.

[www.stjamesvalower.org.uk/children/our-classes](http://www.stjamesvalower.org.uk/children/our-classes)

**By working together, we can keep each other as safe as possible, limit the virus transmission and therefore keep our classes and school open for the children!**



Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

This year has been really tough for lots of us, and Comic Relief would like to celebrate Red Nose Day by making us all smile, as well as raising lots of money!

At St James' you can come in mufti on the day. You may choose to dress up as your favourite superhero, wear funny socks or just dress up in your favourite outfit. The choice is yours!

On **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March**, we will have a whole school talent show to lift our spirits and keep us entertained!

**Children, If you have a talent you would like to share, be ready to perform it in class next week. Each class will choose their top 2 acts to go through to the Grand Final on Friday.**

To make a donation, please go to [Donate | Comic Relief](#) If you do make a donation, please write your donation on a piece of paper and send this in with your child on Friday, 19th March, and we will then total up our combined donation—please don't send in actual money with your child.



Thanks to all your efforts and commitment to supporting safer travel to school, we have been awarded a Green Modeshift Star. We'll now start working towards our Bronze award....

### Coming up...

Piano lessons re-start next week. Guitars & drums will re-start after Easter.

Wednesday 17th March	Hearing Screening for Robins
Friday 19th March	Red Nose Day—MUFTI & Talent Show
Friday 26th March	End of Term
Tuesday 13th April	Children return to school

Summer Term dates will be confirmed at the start of next term, which will hopefully include a sports day this year!