

East.Crompton St. George's C of E Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs R Ross



16th July, 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer,

We are swiftly approaching the end of this academic year and how quickly it has flown!

There have been many challenges to deal with, but we are proud that we have faced them head on and kept most bubbles open! We will continue to follow our strict procedures until the end of this academic year. During our Carnival Event, there is a need to have more than one bubble accessing some sessions at a time. However, I would like to assure you that a distance of at least 2m will be maintained between bubbles to prevent any cross contamination.

September: Whilst the Government have given guidance to schools for September, they have also been clear that schools will have to make amendments in areas where Covid remains high. At this point in time, it is our plan to decrease the drop off and pick up times and be open to all pupils on Friday afternoons. However, should we be told by Public Health that we must maintain bubbles we will need to continue as we currently are. I know that some parents have found the Friday afternoon's frustrating, but this has enabled us to keep our bubbles 'tight' and meant we haven't had to close bubbles as frequently as many other schools have. It is our hope though, that we can return to normal with staff working across the school.

Teaching Assistant Support: It is with a heavy heart I have to inform you we will sadly be losing three members of our support team at the end of this academic year, due to redundancies. Unfortunately, due to losing two classes (year 6) and currently having a very small Reception class, the school budget has been significantly affected. Mrs Hartley, Mrs Pratt and Mrs Swindell will be leaving us. They have all given many years' service to St George's and will be greatly missed. Their commitment, care and support has added to the heart of the school significantly and they will leave a big hole behind them. The remaining teaching assistants will work across classes based on a need's basis.

Reports: Your child will have brought their annual report home today. Over this academic year, there has been a strong focus in schools on additional English and maths due to the significant amount of lost education through Covid. This means that not all curriculum subjects have been taught. Therefore, there may be some subjects where 'effort and achievement' have not been added. Your child may have previously been working at 'age related expectations' (ARE) but now be working below ARE following the impact of lost learning from school closures. We have seen a marked impact on progress following data on return from school closures and will be continuing our academic recovery plan into the next academic year to support pupils in 'plugging gaps' from lost learning.

Carnival Event: We are extremely excited about the event we have planned for next Tuesday and can't wait to see the children engaged in such a fun day. **The first session begins promptly at 9am so it is important that all children arrive by 8.50am.** Please 'drop off' all children between 8.35am and 8.50am - **gates will be locked promptly at 8.50am** as some sessions will be taking place outside. Please drop

*At EC St George's, we let our **LIGHT** shine*

Love of learning Independence God in our hearts High achieving Together as one family.

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children off swiftly, especially at the car park to allow for a quick turnaround of cars. **Children should be collected at the normal staggered times.** Children should bring a full water bottle to school with them to take round each session. They will be spending lots of time outdoors and the weather is expected to be hot so please make sure they have sun cream on before coming to school. We want every child to be able to attend, however, it remains extremely important that children who have Covid-19 symptoms isolate and seek a PCR test and that you keep school informed of the results.

School Improvement Partner: During this term we have received a visit from our 'School Improvement Partner' (SIP) – this is an independent professional who is employed to ensure our school continues to develop and improve. I thought you might like to hear some of the things from his report following his most recent visit:

In relation to our recovery plan the SIP said:

'The hard work and preparation put into evolving programmes of prioritised content in English and mathematics in the Summer term 2020 has meant that teaching and learning has been able to proceed this year in a focused and purposeful manner.'

In relation to progress and attainment the SIP said:

'This is a considerable achievement during a year of unprecedented challenge.'

In relation to our approach following the second lockdown the SIP said:

'The school responded effectively to the second extended period of lockdown and worked hard to deliver provision of continuing quality for all pupils.'

In relation to our school improvement priorities the SIP said:

'In addition to addressing current provision, the school has moved forward with whole school development priorities emerging from the recent Ofsted inspection.'

Thank you: The team of staff at St George's have gone above and beyond during this extremely challenging year and I would like to thank them for their ongoing commitment to ensure we offer the best we can for our amazing pupils! On so many occasions they have put school first where others would have taken a different option. They have stepped up when staff have been absent, at times going without a lunch break or not taking an annual leave day to make sure we have staff to cover when others have been isolating. They truly are a phenomenal bunch and I am proud to be able to lead them as we continue to improve and grow as a school.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude for your ongoing support as parents, despite the challenges we have faced. So many of you have offered kind words and thoughts for us that have lifted our spirits during some of our most difficult days. Your children mean the world to us, we want to make sure that we give our best, as we would want for our own children.

Last day of term: Wednesday 21st July

Autumn term begins: Tuesday 7th September

Wishing you a wonderful Summer.

In appreciation of your continued support.

Kind regards,



Mrs R Ross
Head Teacher