



# STONE ST MARY'S C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

## 'Caring Growing Shining Together'

Dear Parents,

Here we are making our way very quickly to the middle of Term 1. It has been lovely to welcome all of the children back to school and to see them settle so well!

### MEET THE TEACHERS

Great to see so many parents come to the 'meet the teacher' meetings. We really want to work closely with all parents for the benefit of all the children and it is great to build positive relationships with your child's teacher.

**Remember** – if you have any concerns etc.. please talk or email quickly your child's class teacher as this will ensure that anything gets sorted.



Welcome to everyone new to our school family!

### New Staff

Welcome to our new staff – Mrs Katy Rutledge and Miss Megan Hayward who have joined our EYFS team – we hope you will be very happy working at Stone.

### New Reception Children and Families

A huge welcome to our new Year R children and families – it is lovely to meet you all. It has been a pleasure to see all of the new children make a great and positive start to their Primary School journey.

### Uniform

### SCHOOL VISION, ETHOS AND VALUES

**Vision** – CARING GROWING SHINING TOGETHER

**CARING** – The Good Samaritan – Luke 10: 25-37

**GROWING** – Jesus the Real Vine – John 15: 1-8

**SHINING** – Salt and Light – Matthew 5: 13-16

**Ethos** – 'Treat Others as you Wish to be Treated'

**Values** – Hope, Community, Trust, Forgiveness, Respect, Wisdom all overarched by LOVE.

A reminder to you all of our school vision, values and ethos which we encourage our children to use as the foundations to their school life. Everything we do around school, with our whole community, is built on these.

Our children have an excellent understanding of how these should be lived out across school and can articulate well to show how they use them as part of school and everyday life – we hear children discussing the school's vision, values and ethos with each other in certain situations and finding solutions to problems/conflict when doing this! We are very proud of this, as a school, and will ensure this continues by regularly discussing how this happens across all school learning.

You as parents are valuable members of our community, we therefore ask that you are considering our School vision, ethos and values in your lives too and role-modelling this to help your children as well. We, very much, know that many of our parents do this all of the time and we thank them for this as this will only enhance the way all of our children are ready for the future.

We are holding a School Vision Day on

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023**

to remind children of all of the above information etc..

**OUR SCHOOL CHRISTIAN VALUES ARE  
COMMUNITY HOPE TRUST RESPECT FORGIVENESS WISDOM**

Children have returned to school looking very smart in their uniform – many thanks for your support with this.

Trainer shoes can be worn by girls and boys if they wish but they must be completely black and trainer shoes and not proper trainers.

**Please ensure all uniform has a name written in it.** This also includes water bottles (containing water, not juice) and lunch boxes etc.

**REMINDER** – PE uniform needs to be black joggers, house colour t-shirt and school jumper only.

### Uniform Orders

If you would like to order uniform please do so on the Arbor App and the uniform will be delivered to your child's classroom.

### **PARENT WORKSHOP**

#### **EARLY READING AND PHONICS**

**Tuesday 26th September 2023**

**9.00am – 10.00am**

**6.00pm – 7.00pm**

This workshop is aimed at Reception and Key Stage 1 parents. There will be elements repeated from last year's workshop and some new information too. We had really positive feedback last year so if you have not attended this workshop it is a must but please also come along again to learn more too! More information will follow in due course. Look forward to seeing lots of parents there to support their children with Reading!

### Drop-off and Pick-Up

Just a reminder about the new guidelines around the morning and evening drop-off and collection. Your child should be dropped and collected at the given time as there is no longer a time slot but a given time.

PLEASE keep to your drop-off and collection times – children will not be released from classrooms until their designated timings so please arrive at the correct times so that you do not have to wait around.

A – I 8.30am 3.00pm

J – R 8.40am 3.10pm

S – Z 8.50am 3.20pm

Please ensure that once you have collected your children they are carefully being watched so that their safety is paramount at all times.

### Class Worships

Class Worships have all been scheduled and are on the date sheet. Please put them into your diaries as it means the world to the children when you are there!

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023**



KS2 – 9.15am – Thanksgiving Worship

KS1 – 2.00pm – Thanksgiving Worship

All parents are welcome to join us in our celebrations. More details to follow in due course.

### #HELLO YELLOW DAY

#### **Mental Health Awareness**

**Wear yellow to school – donation collections on playground!**



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### Attendance and Punctuality

Please ensure that attendance at school is a high priority for your children. There is clear research that shows that children who attend regularly every year in school achieve much more highly than those where attendance is low.

School will be monitoring the attendance of all pupils and will in a variety of ways liaise with parents when attendance falls below the required thresholds.

If your child is absent from school, please telephone and speak with the office before 9.00am. If we do not receive a reason for absence on the morning, then this will be recorded as unauthorised even if there is a good reason for the absence.

Where there are a number of unauthorised absences that build up then Penalty Notices could be triggered and reported to Kent County Council. Thank you for your support with this. Any holiday requests cannot be authorised unless there are very specific circumstances in line with our policy. Please note again that having good attendance is not a criteria for authorising a holiday request and unauthorised absence through holiday may also lead to the issuing of a penalty notice.

If in a school year, your child is late every day by	Your child would have lost approximately off school	Or they would approximately
5 Mins	3.5 days	18 Lessons
10 Mins	7 days	35 lessons
15 Mins	10 days	50 lessons
20 Mins	14.5 days	73 lessons
30 Mins	22 days	110 lessons

### PARKING AND DRIVING AROUND SCHOOL

Just a few reminders around the parking and driving protocols that we like all of our parents to adopt when dropping off and collecting your children in order to keep all of the children safe!

- 1) Please park in a legal bay and not where you should not park – particularly across a crossing place!
- 2) Please do not park in the Bluewater emergency exit as this is not legal and the crossing of the road from there for children is not safe!
- 3) Try to park further away from the school and walk in to reduce the traffic around school – there are plenty of safe places to park a little walk from school.
- 4) Try to observe the unwritten rule of a one-way system in that we drive from St. James Road end and keep going that way up into Louvain Road so that cars are not needing to pass each other as much – this helps the flow of traffic and is much safer.

### Term Dates 2023 – 2024

**These are all attached – please ensure that you diarise all of the dates so that you do not miss anything!**

## **REMINDER**

**Inset Day Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September  
Children do not attend on this day.**

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jane Rolfe

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