



St Mary's CE VC First School

Charminster
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Newsletter 3 - 2021/22

5th October 2021

Dear Parents

Thank you for supporting us during these difficult times. Over this weekend, it was super to see all families in our community pulling together by taking children for PCR tests where needed and helping us to minimise and reduce risks of any further cases in school. Thank you for your kind messages of support, we really do appreciate them.

In line with government guidance we continue to follow the 4 main control measures:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Staff and parents may wish to wear face coverings in communal spaces at this time and to consider social distancing as additional ways of keeping safe in our community. Thank you for keeping a respectful distance from each other and for dropping your child outside of the building. Every little helps in protecting us all in and around our school.

It has been wonderful to hear the school alive with singing again! Our children have been busy learning harvest songs and preparing for our Harvest Festival which will take place on Thursday 14th October. I am afraid that in order to minimise risks for all members of our school community parents and families will be unable to join with us on this occasion in order to avoid large indoor groups of people gathering. However, class teachers will be sharing songs or art work or other harvest learning via Tapestry and DoJo in order to give you a flavour of our harvest celebrations. We ask that children bring in food donations (non-perishable items please) for the Dorchester Food Bank which Reverend Mark and Reverend Leila have agreed to distribute on our behalf. Donations can be brought into school from now until Thursday 14th October. Thank you for your support with this.

Last year, we trialled a new IT system, 'School Cloud', for Parent Consultations. It was so successful that we have decided to continue using it this year too. Parent Consultations will take place during the week commencing Monday 11th October. These will be virtual sessions where we hope that you will sign up to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss how he or she has settled into their new year group.



Your appointment can be booked using our **School Gateway App** from this morning until **Sunday 10th October at 8pm**.

You will need to click on your child's name in the Gateway App followed by 'Useful Links' and this will take you to the 'Parent Consultation' section. The dates and times for each class teacher are:

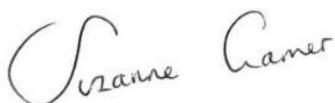
Parents Evenings Teacher Availability for SchoolCloud							
		Mrs Beale & Mrs Drysdale	Mr Holt	Mrs Joslin	Mrs Brake	Mrs Laval	Miss Thornicroft
Monday	11-Oct-21	3.30-7.00pm	4.30-7.00pm	3.30-6.00pm		4-6.00pm	5.00-7pm
Tuesday	12-Oct-21	3.30-5.00pm	3.30-7.00pm	3.30-6.00pm	4.30-8.00pm	3.30-5.30	4.15-6.30pm
Wednesday	13-Oct-21	3.30-5.00pm			4.30-8.00pm	5.00-7pm	4.00-7pm
Thursday	14-Oct-21		3.30-5.00pm	6.00-8.00pm			

This video in the link below shows you how to log in to book, and later attend, video appointments at our Parent Consultation Evenings. You will also receive an attachment as a parent guide in the form of a PDF document. We hope that this will support you.

<https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>

This is a relatively new system for us all, including staff. Please read the guide and watch the video in order to familiarise yourselves with the system and please be patient with us as we are learning too!

Yours sincerely



Future Dates:

11 Oct	Year 3 - Harvest Experience at church
11-14 Oct	Parent/Teacher Consultations
14 Oct	Harvest Festival
19 Oct	Last day of school for children
20 Oct	Staff training day
21 Oct	Staff training day
22 Oct	Staff training day
25-29 Oct	Half Term
1 Nov	Children return to school
9 Nov	School Association AGM - 7.30pm

