

Stratford – Sub – Castle Church of England VC Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Kay Bridson B.A (Hons) PGCE



Life in all its fullness

head@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk admin@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk www.stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk Salisbury Wilts SP1 3LL

☎ 01722 327 227 **昼** 01722 327 227

Thursday 17th February 2022

Dear All

Here we are, half way through the school year and already, what a year it has been! Challenging in all sorts of ways.

Since Christmas, levels of sickness seem to have reduced amongst children and increased amongst adults. Staff illness has been at unprecedented high levels! Thank you, for all your patience and understanding over the last few weeks as we have covered and recovered!

This week, it has been lovely to welcome Miss Smith and Mrs Watkins back to school following their sick leave. In contrast to this news, Mrs Dugwell has decided that she will not be able to return to school following her sick leave. Due to personal/family reasons, Mrs Dugwell has resigned her post (covering Mrs Rudman's maternity leave). I know this has been an extremely difficult decision for Mrs Dugwell to make and I would like to thank her for all her hard work for the school since she started in September.

This means that I will continue to take class responsibility for Woodpecker Class and will be available to talk to the parents of Woodpecker Class pupils at the up-coming Parents' Evenings in March.

Remember...Parents' Evenings on Thursday 10th March and Friday 11th March 2022 are planned to be face-to-face events (in the school hall). Booking details will be sent out straight after the holiday.

Remember... Open Door afternoons are taking place during the first week back.

The 'Open Door' sessions are on Tuesday 1st March 2022 and Wednesday 2nd March 2022. 15:15 to 16:00.

If possible, please could families with surname A-L come on TUESDAY 01.03.22 15:15-16:00

Families M-Z come on WEDNESDAY 02.03.22 15:15 - 16:00.

These afternoons provide a chance for families to come into school to see the classrooms and look at their child's books so that **the Parents' Evening on Thursday 10th March and Friday 11th March** do not entail too many people mixing and 'hanging around'. The plan is for these meetings to take place in the hall (similar to pre-C19, but without books and wandering around the school)

It has been a long term and the children are extremely tired. We are experiencing lots of tears, squabbles and emotional fatigue. Many children have 'missed out on' a great deal of play, mixing and socialising over the last couple of years. As things become a bit more 'normal' please be aware that this can be overwhelming and scary for some children. Take it gently and don't be surprised if your child needs encouragement to attend events and to be a bit more socially active. When children lack confidence or

self-esteem it can come over as grumpy, aggressive or rude! Remember our children need all our love, patience and understanding now. Their growing brains need to connect with our adult brains in order to feel safe, secure and able to explore the world with confidence.

When trying something new, maybe go and watch first. Holding someone's hand can help them to feel brave.

Have a lovely break and get some rest and hopefully it will feel like spring when we return!

Love, peace and joy to you all.



Kay Bridson

Remember please...

- we break for a holiday on Friday 18.02.22
- we return to school on Monday 28.02.22, following the holiday
- the emergency contact number for Early Birds and Night Owls is now 07432845958
- World Book Day is Thursday 3rd March (flier and voucher coming home this afternoon)

