

St Bertelina's Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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St Bert's News

Website www.stbertelines.org.uk

14th September 2020

We hope you had the chance to enjoy the lovely weather over the weekend and are ready for a busy week ahead.

Pre-School Provision

It is with much regret that the Governors of St Bertelina's C of E Primary School has made the sad decision to close our pre-school provision as from Friday 25th September.

This sudden decision has been made in light of the fact that our existing staff have given resignation from their posts in order to secure employment elsewhere.

Recruitment during the current climate would be extremely difficult within the short time frame we have available. It would also be impossible to ensure continuity of quality experience with both members of staff leaving.

We apologise sincerely for the sudden change in circumstances. We realise this will be a disappointment for those families affected. We can assure you that the long term plan is for the early years team at St Bert's to provide your child with quality transition activities nearer the time of starting school. These activities will endeavour to bridge any gap in preparation for a smooth transition to our reception classes.

We will keep you informed of any developments with regards to your child. We thank you in advance for your ongoing support and understanding in this matter.

Individual Photos

This
Wednesday
16th September
2020 the
school



photographer will be in school on this occasion the photographer will only be taking individual photographs to avoid the unnecessary opportunity for cross contamination.

The photographer will start to take photographs following registration.

Can we please ask parents to make sure their children bring in a red cardigan or jumper, even if the weather is warm. Thank you.

Homework

Just to inform parents that homework will no longer be sent home in paper form. All homework will be set by each class teacher, who will talk through the homework set with their children in class and subsequently put onto their class page on the school website. To access the homework, please click onto your child's class page and at the top left hand corner is a tab 'HOMEWORK'. Homework will be uploaded every Friday by end of the school day.

Cashless Payments

As of Monday 28th September 2020, St Bert's will be using a new payment system (SIMS Pay). Parents will no longer need to send cash into school for dinner money, uniform, residentials or any event that takes place in school requiring payment.

In the first instance, we will be trialling school dinners and dinner money. As part of the new system, parents will be able to order their child's school dinner on-line in advance and also pay for their dinner at the same time.

Basically, you will receive a one-off email from SIMS Pay with a code. You need the code to register. Once registered you can follow the on-line instructions. If you would like more detail on how to use SIMS Pay there will be a brochure available on our school website.

Behaviour Policy

Can we please make parents aware of changes to our Behaviour Policy which can be viewed on the school website.

Traffic on Broadfields/Norton Gate

Today we have had a complaint from a local resident regarding drivers behaviour along Broadfield and Norton Gate. The resident has made a complaint regarding illegal driving, including cars trying to do a 3-point turn as well as reversing onto a main road.

These incidents have been reported to the police. Please be reminded that highway rules are for the safety of all, including your children.

Admission to Secondary Schools

If your child is due to transfer from Primary to Secondary in September 2021, the Admissions to Secondary School Booklet which explains the arrangements is available at

www.halton.gov.uk/schooladmissions

[ons](http://www.halton.gov.uk/schooladmissions). A paper copy of the preference form can also be requested from

schooladmissions@halton.gov.uk.

(There is no hard copy).

It is highly recommended that you read the relevant booklet and then complete the online application available at the above website.

Admissions Timetable

September 2021

September 2020

Admission to Secondary School booklet available online. Online applications open.

31st October 2020

Closing date for receipt of preference forms and online applications

1st March 2021

Notification of outcome of preference available online, to those who applied online, and letter posted to parents of paper applicants

29th March 2021

Closing date for submission of intention to appeal.

Communication

The new system of starting and finishing the school day means that there is not a natural opportunity to communicate with the class teacher. We would therefore like to suggest that

should you need to talk to your class teacher you contact the school office in the first instance. A message will then be passed on to the teacher who will contact you at their earliest convenience.

E-mail communication

Please ensure that we have your current active email address. We are verifying our list of email contacts with our web provider so that we can begin to communicate important information to you on a regular basis eg Newsletters

Social Distancing

Thank you for your ongoing support with regards to arriving at and departing from school. We have tweaked our system so that Reception parents are entering they yard at home time in order to collect their child. We have also set up a new system for Mrs Moss' children. We feel that the situation is improving, however we are having a meeting with Halton Highways in the near future.

Quote of the Week

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

It's a fact: laughter increases immunity, and benefits cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive and muscular systems. It reduces pain and stress, increases energy and gives you a sense of well-being. It's also contagious!

Proverbs 17:22

Prayers

Prayers this week are for anybody who is feeling fed up, sad or generally feeling low



because of the changes we are all having to make in our lives.

God Bless!