



All Saints' CE (VA) Junior and Infant School
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Tuesday 14th July

Dear Pupil and Parents/Carers,

We are pleased to confirm that we are currently in the positive position to welcome all of the All Saints' children back to school in September. School will be a little different as there is still health and safety guidance and protocols which we must follow but where possible it will feel like we are back to normal.

End of Term

This Friday 17th July, will be the last day that we will provide home learning. Teachers will also check class emails on this day one last time before they return in September.

We will be writing to all families with full arrangements for September before the summer break.

It is certainly a different end of term than we are used to and some of you have been working at home for a long time now. Thank you for getting stuck in to your home learning work each week and for sharing your work and photos through the class email or whilst talking to your teacher. Both I and the teachers love to see what you've been doing. We also enjoy hearing your news and how you are getting on with everything.

We hope you and your families enjoy a well-deserved break over summer and we are now busy planning lessons using our bespoke All Saints' Curriculum (this will be on the class pages on the website very shortly) for when we are all back together again in September.

New Academic Year

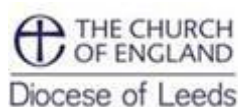
The first day of term which is Tuesday 8th September will be a 'Hello – Goodbye day' in which all children where possible can go back to the class they are currently in now to see their teachers and say good bye. They will also have the opportunity to meet their new teacher, collect their books and anything they need to take home from this academic year.

On your first day you are also welcome to bring any home learning books and any work along to put in a drop off box (we will quarantine it for a few days) so that your current and new teachers can see all your lovely work that you have done if you have been unable to come to school. It might also free up some space in your homes again and turn your home classrooms back into dining or playrooms!

We have also been asked if you are able to bring cards to school before the summer particularly where you might be moving on to a new class or up to high school. The 'Hello-Goodbye' day is a great opportunity to do this.

Curriculum

The curriculum will play a significant part in welcoming children back to school. We as a school are developing a systematic, relationships based approach to reigniting the light of learning in each and every child at All Saints'. This will be in the process of re-engagement which will in turn, lead our children slowly and carefully back to their rightful status as fully engaged authentic learners. We are aware that everyone has been on a different



'path' during these unprecedented times and each child's return will be closely monitored, evaluated and supported.

Our Curriculum in its first instance will be underpinned by the following areas:

Relationships (reaching out and greeting our children, we aim to cushion the discomfort of returning to school and routine)

Community (listening to children in terms of what has happened to them, understand and grow together)

Transparent Curriculum (understanding children's gaps, constructing sessions and bespoke lessons to heal the sense of loss)

Metacognition (reskill and rebuild children's confidence as learners)

Space (re- discover themselves and provide opportunities to explore expectations)

The first two weeks in September will be our transition, during these weeks there will be a stronger focus on our school values, community and their experiences. Teachers will respond and listen to their class and will start full academic lessons as soon as the children are ready.

The children will be exploring one of our Values every day, they will be creating art work, writing, role play etc. which will then be displayed in corridors, to showcase all experiences and strengthen their identity and sense of community.

All children will take part in our 'snack and chat sessions' where the children will develop their listening, discussion and oracy skills whilst eating a complex carbohydrate snack provided by school.

Learning and love of learning will continue to be a focus for us all.

Wellbeing

Wellbeing will be a priority for all as we return— children, families and staff. By introducing our '**Hello Goodbye Day**' on Tuesday 8th September, children will feel welcomed to a familiar environment with well-known staff. The aim of the day is to provide children with a 'stepping stone' to return to school, as opposed to a big leap, and thus reduce any anxieties the day may bring. It will also provide moments of 'closure' as children and staff say goodbye to each other and celebrate their annual successes, as they would usually do on our last day together in July. Throughout the day, children will have an opportunity to meet their new teachers ready for their first day in their new year group on Wednesday 9th September.

As well as welcoming children back into school, we will be focusing on building positive relationships as a way to improve mental health. Each child will be completing a 'My Wellbeing Support Plan' during the first week. This will involve trialling, discussing and recording personal favourite activities that help them stay positive, e.g. deep breathing, exercise and socialising. We will also be taking time to re-explore our six core Christian values.

Please rest assured that, during the first few weeks especially (and into the long term), wellbeing will not just be a 'token' at All Saints'. It will be a priority for all children and staff, and will be prioritised in an authentic and consistent way across all year groups. We hope to identify any difficulties quickly and effectively, and support our learners to shine as bright as they can; to shine as bright (or even brighter!) than they were pre-lockdown.



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As you will have already seen, we are asking families to support wellbeing and the return to school in two ways over the summer holidays:

1. To create a 'Happiness Box', full of happy memories and your favourite things to discuss with your new teacher. Please bring into school from Wednesday 9th September.
2. To bring a padlock into school, signed with your name during the first week. We are going to attach these to school gate in the playground. A lock is symbolic of belonging and connection around the world, and we want all children and families to feel this sense of belonging and connection with school upon their return.

If parents and carers would like school to know of any loss or significant changes in your family that may impact on your child(ren)'s wellbeing, please do let us know via admin@allsaints.calderdale.sch.uk.

Once again thank you for your hard work through these difficult times. Both families and staff have had to juggle their work commitments along with home learning, childcare, family illness, job uncertainty and more. We hope you are able to take some time to rest over summer and are looking forward to returning to school in September. We can't wait to see you!

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Watson

