



Bringing faith and  
education together

# St. George's Church of England Primary School

**Our value this term is HOPE  
Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each  
other, just as Christ forgives you - Ephesians 4:32**

## Summer 2020

It has been a lovely end of the summer term as we're able to welcome back three year groups and continue to support our key worker families. The school's classroom and playground bubbles that we have been organised into have brought life and laughter back into school. It is tinged with sadness as we have still been without another four year groups. Come September we are planning for a full reopening. This won't be without challenges as we adjust to new ways we come to school and new routines but I am confident from what we have already achieved that we will do this with the children's health, well being and learning at the heart of all of our decisions.

One thing I am incredibly proud of is the way our community has pulled together and I don't mean just our school community! One of our very pro-active parents set up the 'gofundme' donation page and was supported by generous support of other families and local businesses. With financial donation from people in our community it has meant that our vulnerable families have had fresh fruit and vegetables delivered to them! Thank you to everyone who has helped support this amazing effort and united our whole community.

There is no doubt that the current pandemic has affected us all in many different ways - many challenging and some heart breaking but there has also been many positives. In school the children of our key worker families wanted us to recognise the hard work and dedication their parents have made as well as the positivity and understanding of others they have discussed in their 'bubble'. In school every child has been given a pebble to decorate with their own message to remember the times we have been through and will



continue until we return in September, or something that has inspired them. We are then putting them around our very own St George's dragon at our school entrance to show our appreciation. Their hope was to create their own bit of history which is very pertinent as when we return in September we will be celebrating the school's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of being on our current site!



There has been a primary school in Wrotham since

1870. The original school was sited along the Gravesend Road, and forged close links with the parish church. Over the years the school out-grew its Victorian building. Eventually, the school made the 'big move' across the village to the present building on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1970. We are making plans in school to help the children celebrate this occasion (while working within the government guidelines!) as well as learning about the history of the school they are part of. If you feel you could help in any way please do not hesitate to contact the school via email [admin@st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk)

'Legacy' seems to be a buzz word in school at the moment. Our Year 6 children have been a big part of this. Over the years the 'leavers' have established many traditions but sadly due to current situation these have had to dramatically change this year. However, I cannot praise the children high enough as they adapted to this well and came up with ideas in which we can safely plan some special leaving memories for them!



Traditionally we hold a Leavers' Service in St George's Church but sadly we are unable to do this in quite the same way. Luckily for us we have a very impressive vicar in Edward who will be 'zooming' in virtually to school so we can continue with an adapted version!



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In their class bubbles the Year 6 have been reflecting on lockdown and thoughts of their future journey ahead as they move onto secondary school. Here are some of their comments:

*"During lockdown it was boring at home. We had lie ins but the work was difficult because there was lots to do and you had to learn to pace yourself."*

*"It's been fun coming back to school. We love seeing our friends again and our teachers have helped us with our work. We are free to play in our bubbles."*

*"We are excited about starting secondary school. There will be lots of new opportunities and we will get a lot more independence. Some of us will be travelling to school in different ways. The thing that we are most looking forward to is the variety of lunches that will be on offer!"*

A newer tradition that we started last year was for our Year 6 to leave behind a legacy for the children staying at St George's. I have been a big fan of their choice this year! Since coming back to school they have embraced a gardening project in our reflection garden. They have dug out beds, swept areas, weeded, pruned and grown their own vegetables and flowers! Their hope (our school value this term) is they have inspired the younger children in school to take over this project when they leave - and I am sure they will!



As one journey comes to an end another begins and our thoughts turn to the next academic year. Although we will still have the challenge of full reopening of school safely there are also some exciting projects ahead. If you feel you could support the school and be involved we have vacancies for welcoming you to our Governing Body. Having support from members of our local community with your wider skills is sought after so please do not hesitate to contact us for more details at [admin@st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk). I hope we hear from you!

**Mrs E Rye - Headteacher**