



Bringing faith and
education together

St. George's Church of England Primary School

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

September 2020

With the arrival of September we were finally able to open the school gates to every year group in school. It took a lot of planning (and continued revision) to ensure we had confidence in welcoming back to school safely. As last year's Year 6 have now all moved successfully onto their secondary schools we welcomed our new youngest children in Oak class. Some of them have only just turned 4 years old but they have impressed me with how well they have adjusted to big changes in their little lives. I am excited and proud to be their Headteacher as they take their next steps in their learning journey!

Despite anxieties, concerns and worries I was proud of all our school community that since our return we have had over 90% attendance every day. With some children having not been in school for six months re-opening was a big step. We've all had to communicate and alter previous ways we have worked. We are required to do staggered starts and ends to the day to keep everyone as safe as we can and with 210 children on roll it has been a challenge. I can only thank everyone from the staff, children, parents and local residents for all of your support. It is no way perfect yet but with good communication between us all we continue to strive to make it as good as it can be.

From our partial re-opening there were many successful aspects which we have adopted. One of these was the success of our daily online worships. Government guidelines restricts us from congregating as a whole school for our daily act of worship. However, our virtual worships are going well and Edward continues to impress us with his internet skills as he zooms into our classrooms!



On Tuesday 15th September the school celebrated being on its current site for 50 years! To settle the children back into school and prepare for this great event in our school calendar the children have learnt about events over the decades starting on the first day with the 1970's.

Among others, it has been so lovely to hear classes French phrases to celebrate the date the Channel Tunnel was opened, others celebrating Euro 96 with a football tournament and others learning all about the Tour De France, to celebrate the fact that it began in Yorkshire in 2014. They have also learnt about some key individuals over the past 50 years, such as Margaret Thatcher, Nelson Mandela and The Queen. The children have had a really positive week back in school and it has been fantastic to walk around the school and see classrooms full of smiling faces.

We have welcomed back some past students and staff to talk about their time at St George's. We would like to say a big thank you to David Harkin, Andrew Cameron, Mrs Lyle and Mr Jones for coming to speak to the children about life was like at St George's when they were at the school. It was fascinating to hear how much the school has changed over time. It has also been lovely to hear how much of a positive influence St George's has had on their lives and how their time here has been a major factor in leading them to where they are now.

Many parents and grandparents have also been sharing their stories. Some have sent in pictures, copies of certificates or written a reflection. These are being copied (as some original pieces are treasured memories!) and we are creating displays of St George's CEP School over the decades. Maybe you have some too? We would love to hear about them. Please send anything you would like us to share to the school either by post or email to admin@st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk.



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We are also lucky to have an active PTA who have helped with ideas to celebrate the occasion and some talented parents who have made some special mementoes to add to our school's Reflection Garden. It really is a chance for us all to celebrate 50 years of St. George's Church of England Primary School being on it's current site!



We love being a school that works closely with the whole school community and believe this would be a great way to celebrate this and know your children /grandchildren currently as St George's would love it!

I hope we get to share some of your amazing stories.

Mrs E Rye - Headteacher