



# St. George's CEP Newsletter

Issue 17: January 29th 2021

*'Bringing faith and education together'*

## Our value this term is RESPECT

Treat others as you want to be treated-

Luke 6:31

Another school week has been completed which brings us to the end of January. I can only praise the staff who are working both in school and at home for their dedication and positivity. This is reflected in the work your amazing children have been doing. I often get to see it first hand in school or as a range of written pieces, photos and videos. I know I also have you all multi-tasking left, right and center and no doubt you feel upside down and back to front sometimes but you're doing an AMAZING job supporting your children. The weather most certainly hasn't helped with supporting well-being by getting outdoors but it has been so good to see how much lessons have tried to adapt to supporting children being active and not just sitting in front of a screen for hours (because we all know that after learning in front of a screen the children's reward is often to go gaming, yep in front of a screen!).



I wanted to share a quick last minute addition today that popped up on his Class Dojo as it seems Beech Class have been doing some 'fake cooking' challenge today. I really enjoyed watching Archie's recipe of making friends by mixing together kindness, being nice, helpful, funny and trusting. We are all aware how much the children miss being in the company of their friends and hope it won't be too long now before we are together again.

I'm sure you are aware of the Government's current position, confirming the earliest schools will reopen will be Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. This date will be reviewed on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February (the first day of term 4) As soon as we know more then I will provide you with further updates. Schools will be closed for half term on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February but within that week is Valentine's day and Pancake Day to keep us busy.

This does mean that we are going to be continuing with remote education for at least four more weeks. This I know is tough news for many of us. But, I can see children have more of a routine and keeping structure has helped them stay engaged – but we are aware some days are better than others so my advice is pick your battles, we all have off days. If you want to off load, ask for support or just call for a chat PLEASE dojo or call the school. We are here to help however we can. All messages or calls are treated confidentially.

With this in mind, next week brings the start of February and also Children's Mental Health week. All classes will have a focus on this through lessons, zooms and signposting strategies for the children. We have also attached some additional support for you with websites which can be found on our website

<https://www.st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk/assets/Documents/Attachments/Mental-Health-Week-v2.pdf>

Respect

Courage

Kindness

Forgiveness

Hope

Honesty

You can find out about what's going on at St George's in a variety of ways:

Visit the school website: [www.st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk/](http://www.st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk/)

Follow us on twitter: @StGeorgesKent

Keep up to date with newsletters on our website and keep an eye on the class pages

## Learning All Around Us

As a parent myself, we are aware of the increased time we are all spending in front of screens. I've lost count of the number of times I've tried to persuade my two children to go for a walk, play in the garden and ended my argument with 'Otherwise you'll get square eyes!'

However, I do think it's important to get out each day or put on the wii for some rather embarrassing Mum moves on Just Dance (rather than dress up in tight lycra superhero outfits with Joe Wicks - my poor neighbours do not deserve that!).

So it was great praise for some of our younger critical worker children who went out to learn about crossing the road safely and well done to all of the children who have been taking the family dog for a walk, counting sticks while clearing up in the garden, you're very imaginative parents and love seeing your great ideas which we share each week in our virtual weekly staff meetings to share your great ideas -thank you!



## INDEPENDENT LEARNERS

I just want to pass on a BIG well done to all of the children who are using their **own** Class Dojo log ins. **This works really well for children in KS2 classes.** This means they can just focus on their own class (parents with more than one child you get all of your children's on your posts!).

Over the last two weeks more children have been accessing their own, giving them independence with saying hi in the daily register under the date and being able to re-play videos when they need to go back over something.

This means they can post their learning to their teachers through dojo themselves too. This can allow for feedback for the children from their class teacher so they can go and add improvements, be signposted to some extension tasks or get a big thumbs up for the effort they've put into the work.

Not sure how to do this? Give us a call in school so we can help get you started!

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