



St. Lucia's Church of England Primary School Upton Magna

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Head Teacher – Mrs S. L. Woolley
MA BA (Hons) QTS NPQH

6th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back - September 2021

A very warm welcome back to the new school year and we hope you have all been able to get a break at some point along the way.

Garden Improvements

First and foremost, we want to acknowledge all the hard work and commitment from our new parent governors, members of staff and other parents for giving up some of their time during the holidays and showing dedication in improving our front garden area and painting inside the school. I'm sure you'll agree, the garden looks vastly improved, helping to provide a welcoming entrance to St Lucia's. You will have hopefully seen the picture taken by the Shropshire Star too. Particular thanks to Mr Barry Willmore and Mrs Tenille Jackson and Mrs H Smith for coordinating the project from the governors, staff and associated helpers.

Full-time Nursery Opening

Our nursery is now open full-time to support working parents. If your child is 3+ years old, they can also use the extended schools provision from 7.45am until 5.30pm. Please let us know if you would like to book any of these sessions. The rate has been held at £4.20 per hour for three and four year olds and £5.25 for two year olds. The 15 and 30 hours entitlement can also be used. Please ensure confirmation of the voucher entitlement by Wednesday 8th September to allow for funding claims to be processed. Thank you

Class 4

We welcome Miss E Randall as our teacher on Fridays in Class 4

Assemblies

It has been wonderful to gather all the children and staff back together on their return for whole school assemblies again. We are also resuming the celebration assemblies each Friday in addition to key stage workshops and singing practices too.

P.E. and Forest School Starting this week, 6th September

Class 1 P.E. is on Mondays and Forest School on Wednesday mornings. Please send your child dressed ready in their Forest School clothes with their wellies and school uniform in a bag to change into later during the day.

Class 2 P.E. is on Wednesdays and Forest School just for Year 1 children on Thursday mornings. Again, please send your child dressed ready in their Forest School clothes and with wellies and send their school uniform to change into in a separate bag.

Class 3 P.E. will be on Mondays and Tuesdays

Class 4 P.E. will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays

We ask that P.E. kits are kept in school all week, in case times need to alter due to weather conditions, or extra sports opportunities. Mr A Mc Phail from Embrace sports partnership will be working with both key stage 2 classes each Tuesday to cover a range of P.E. and sports skills.

School Uniform and Lunchboxes

Please check that your child's school uniform is all clearly labelled to avoid any missing items. Everyone is looking so smart at the start of the new term too!

Water Bottles

Thank you for remembering to send a water bottle into school. Just a reminder that as a Healthy School, plain water and not juice which can be sticky if spilt is needed for all year groups, including children in the nursery. The daily milk scheme will continue for children in the Early Years as part of the government scheme.

Healthy Tuck

Again, as a Healthy School, we provide a free piece of fresh fruit for all key stage 1 children on a daily basis. Therefore, we encourage this and occasionally where there is spare fruit left towards the end of the week, this is shared with our key stage 2 classes.

School Lunches

Lunch costs have been held at the same price of £2.40 per day for paid key stage 2 meals and £1.20 for nursery children. The Free School Meal entitlement for eligible families and for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to be provided free of charge. As you will be aware, the meals are made fresh in our school kitchen and a choice of two hot meal options and two deserts is offered on a daily basis. We therefore value the uptake of additional paid school meals from key stage 2 children to support this service. If paying for lunches, please send in cash or cheques payable to 'Shropshire Council'. Lunch registers are taken daily, but payment is preferred on a weekly/half-termly basis.

COVID Procedures

If your child is unwell, COVID testing is still strongly advised before a return to school. This will help in preventing a potential outbreak. Although masks are not compulsory, we would appreciate a mask to be work on drop off and collection for the Sunrise and Sunset clubs due to the close proximity of contact on hand over and we thank you in anticipation of your help.

Parent Appointments

For future planning and diary dates, we will be offering parent appointments for all classes this term during the afternoons of Monday 8th November and Tuesday 9th November. We trust you will find these useful in providing updates on your child's progress and the opportunities to have individual dialogue with your child's class teacher. A separate letter will be sent home next week with appointment options.

Church and Community Links

We would like to say a very big 'thank you', 'goodbye and good luck' to Rev. Lisa Knight who is leaving to take up a new role as Vicar. Lisa has worked tirelessly with St Lucia's school through the church and we have been so grateful for all she has done. We wish her all the very best.

It is hoped that school can return to some more normality in how church and community events are arranged this year. Rev. Andy Ackroyd will be supporting St Lucia's school following Lisa's departure. Discussions are taking place with the church very shortly to explore the options available in helping children and our community celebrate important and significant events in the church's calendar including Harvest. Further details will be share with you all in due course.

Holidays and PD Days

Please see the school term-time calendar on our website for further details.

For ease, we have listed a summary of the PD days below which have also been kept in line with the standard Shropshire holidays and set half-terms to help working parents:

1. Friday 22nd October 2021
2. Tuesday 4th January 2022 (following the Bank holiday)
3. Friday 18th February 2022
4. Monday 6th June (in line with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations weekend and the additional national Bank Holidays on Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd June 2022)

We will continue to keep you up to date when further events are confirmed, or if national/regional updates are received. Any additional reminders will also be sent via the text messaging service when appropriate.

Kind Regards

S.L. Woolley

Mrs S.L. Woolley
Headteacher