



St Martin's Garden
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Friday 4th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, It has been so lovely to see you and all the children on the playgrounds and in classes. There have been so many smiles and happy children in school. Thank you for all your support over the last three days with social distancing at drop off and pick up times.

This week we have also welcomed some of our new reception children and families into school. They have thoroughly enjoyed their morning sessions and have embraced school in such an independent and content way. We have also welcomed several new families across our school and new staff. We know you will give them a warm welcome. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for planning such a great first week; the curriculum has been focused on wellbeing, so lots of fun and exciting activities have been going on. Just what the children needed!

Over the holidays so much has happened with large parts of the school being transformed. The Margaret Coates Centre, Gold and Silver classes and the Dining Hall have all been freshly painted. Our Reception and Key Stage 1 classes have been painted and newly carpeted. In Key Stage 2 our classes have also been painted. You may also have seen the amazing work that has continued to happen over the Summer holidays to create our new Forest School area.



Buddy our School Dog has also been in during the holidays trying out some of his own gardening techniques. Not always successfully though. Buddy will be coming for a visits over the next few months to familiarise himself further with the school.

We have welcomed some new members of staff to our school team this year. Mrs Hilary Russell in our Year 5/6 Class, Mr Josh Owens and Mrs Sarah Cospey in Silver Class, Miss Natalie Bradbury in Bronze Class and Mrs Joy Slinger in Plum Class. We are also welcoming back Mrs Konni Jackish from her maternity leave and she is teaching in Bronze Class this year.

On that note I would like to inform you that Mrs Molly Harris our Gold Class Teacher is expecting her first child later in the Autumn Term and we are all really pleased for her and her partner.



Next Week, we will be launching our five School Values that were voted for by both our children and parents last year. I am really looking forward to sharing these with you and how we will be celebrating our values of the term each week.

We are very much aware as a school that we want to keep you up-to-date with our calendar of events. We know that key events happen every year such as Nativity Performances, Open Days, Photographs, Parents Evenings, PTFA events etc. As a school we already looking at how we can facilitate these events in a socially distanced way. We will keep you updated throughout the term our weekly newsletters.

Our Breakfast Club has reopened. It is £1.00 per week and is open from 7.30 am. **Places are limited for each Bubble** at the moment so please contact the office to see if we have a space in your child's Bubble.

As a school we continue to take all the precautions we can possible to keep children and adults safe and with your help we hope to be able to achieve this and minimise as much as we can any further disruption to your child's education. **Please read the document attached to this email as it contains information about the school day, PPE and what to do if you someone becomes unwell.**

As always, thank you for your support. I know from speaking to parents and children that you like us are so pleased to have begun the new school year. Have a very restful weekend,

If you do have any questions or queries, please could I ask that you **email the school office school@stmartinsgarden.org.uk or leave a message on the school answerphone 01225 832112 and myself, Mrs Horn or Mr Bogg will get back to you as soon as we can.**

Kind regards,

Claire Parfitt

Head Teacher an Specialist Leader in Education

PLEASE NOTE: We are doing our very best but particularly during these first weeks, we will want all of the children to get to and from their bubbles safely and feel confident about where they are based which may take a little extra time particular initially so we would appreciate your continued patience and support of social distancing measures.