

April 30th 2021 School Newsletter



Justin Stone -
Head Teacher

Phone
01392 276854

E-mail
admin@st-thomas.devon.sch.uk

Dates

- ◆ 19/4/21 - Summer Term begins
- ◆ 3/5/21 - May Bank Holiday
- ◆ 7/5/21 - Class Photos
- ◆ 31st May - 4th June - Half Term
- ◆ 22/7/21 Last day of term

Bank Holiday Monday 3/5/21!

Covid 19

There is very little change to the Department for Education's guidance for school opening during the pandemic. This means we are going to need to follow the same structures and routines for the time being. The only slight change over Easter is that schools can begin to plan short visits. I know teachers have been keen to integrate this into their planning for the rest of the term. In mid May the government is planning to lift more national restrictions so I am expecting that some of the restrictions in school may be lifted too. However the message is very clear at the moment. Even though COVID cases are low and the vaccination programme has been a success for schools it needs to be a very cautious approach to easing restrictions. No one is keen to have any more school closures or for groups to have to self-isolate at home. The symptoms remain the same - If your child develops;

- a temperature,
- a persistent cough or
- loses their sense of taste or smell

they must stay off school. Everyone has been really good about this. If your child does have symptoms they must remain off school for 10 days or have a PCR test. A Lateral Flow Test **must not** be used if your child is symptomatic. Thanks you for all your patience and help so far as we continue to navigate through this pandemic - it is really appreciated.

Messages

During this time Class Dojo has been a bit of a life saver for setting and completing work and being able to communicate quickly and easily between home and school. Now we are fully back in school urgent messages and absences **must** be phoned through to the school office on 01392 276854. In the morning teachers are busy preparing resources and their rooms for the day ahead and it is not always possible to check Class Dojo. There have been a few occasions when important information has been missed. Whilst we are always prepared to help in a crisis please do not expect responses during evenings a weekends. Thank you for your help with this.

Farewell

I am sad to announce that at the end of this half term Lisa Jones, our Parent Support Advisors, will be leaving us to take up an exciting position within another trust. Lisa will be a great loss to our school and I know many of you have appreciated her support over the past few years. I am sure you will join me in wishing Lisa every success in her new position and saying a huge thank you for everything she has done!



Class Photographs

I know we missed out on individual photographs this year but I am pleased to say we have managed to organise class photographs. The photographer will be in school on the morning of **Friday 7th May** to take the photos. We will send out the sample to you with details of how to order as soon as they are available.

Bikeability

This week some of our Year 5 and 6 children have completed their Level 1 and 2 Bikeability training. This helps the children to learn how to be safe with their bikes on the road. They have had to brave both rain and shine over the last few days to complete the course. Other groups will be going out next week.

Enjoy the long Weekend!