

---

Old Church C.E. (C) Primary School  
School Street  
Darlaston  
Wednesbury  
WS10 8DL  
0121 568 6329  
Headteacher: Ms D Clacy



Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July

Dear Parents,

### **Covid Update**

We have been told by the Prime Minister that there will be an update later this week on getting children back to school in September. What he has already said is that:

- All children are expected to be back in school in September
- Parents will be fined if they don't send their children to school.

How we are to do this has not been released although we believe the 1 metre social distancing will be dropped and we will have to teach our children in rows.

What I can let you know is that the children, who have returned to school, have been very resilient and have just got on with things. I believe that it is the adults (including myself) who stress about things and the children just get on with it. So if you are worried about your child returning, please be reassured the ones in school have settled well!

### **Reports**

You should by now have received a text about collecting your child's report from school. The look of the report is different from previous years. We can only comment on the progress your child made up until March, when we went into Lockdown. The report will contain no attendance or end of key stage attainment data. This follows government guidelines.

### **Social Media**

Some of my staff have been on a child exploitation course recently. They have been horrified at how easily children can be sexually exploited on what they thought were innocent sites. This webinar was led by the local police and I thought I would share the findings with you as during lockdown children have been using social media more and more. Please delete these sites from your child's phone/ ipad. I will not go into detail on all the sites but these sites leave your child very vulnerable.

- **Snapchat Premium also known as Private Snap -**
- **OnlyFans - 18 years +**

- **Telegram - 18 years +** This is a cloud based messaging app that allows people to send text, video, pictures and other files completely free. There is an option of creating a user name that is totally public and can be searched by anyone.
- **Viber - 13 years + -** A chat based app where you can have secret chats. After messages have been read it will automatically delete itself from your contacts.
- **Wickr Me - 12 years + -** The child can connect with friends 1-1 or as a group. This app gives control of messaging to the sender rather than the receiver. They can make text, video, voice and messaging. They can set an expiration time to their encrypted communication. This cannot be tracked.

### **Free School Meals**

The Government has announced that there will be FSM vouchers, worth £90 for the 6 week summer holiday period. School will apply for the vouchers next week; beware the system is different from the system we are currently using so we know there will be problems!

- 3 vouchers for £30 to be issued to families every fortnight, on 15 July, 29 July and 12 August.'
- Late yesterday the threshold changed for claiming free school meals. It has changed to a household earning £16,190 or less-This is over double what it was previously and suggests that some families have been missing out until now.

If you think you are entitled to free school meals, but as yet have not applied, you must do this before next week for you to be entitled to the vouchers. The form is on the Walsall LA website.

People already in our system will automatically get the vouchers. So you do not need to contact us.

### **Summer Holidays**

School will not be open during the 6 week summer holiday period to any children. We will not be holding any holiday clubs either.

### **Refunding Trips**

Now that the banks are open more widely, Mrs Spittle will refund trip money we collected for trips which were due to take place before lockdown e.g. the KS1 trip to the theatre. We will give this back to your child in September.

Please do not forget that we are on the end of a telephone if you need us. No question is too silly.

Kind Regards

Davina Clacy