



Cottesmore St. Mary Catholic Primary School

THE DIOCESE OF ARUNDEL AND BRIGHTON



Headteacher: Rachel Breen B.A. Hons.

3rd July 2020

Transition for Years 2 – 5 and Summer Holiday Work

Dear Parents / Carers

We are looking forward to welcoming back all pupils in September. We will be in touch with regards to exact details once we have more information to share. With the children's return imminent, we are thinking ahead to the children's transition. Due to current restrictions, we are unable to welcome children from Years 2 - 5 formally at present but identify that it is important for all children to have the opportunity to visit the school, and see peers, before their official start date.

Brief welcome in July / book collection

Before the end of term, we are offering children, from Years 2 – 5, a chance to return to school in order to collect their school books, any lost / left property plus the opportunity to say hello to their current class teacher and teaching assistant face to face. They will also get the chance to see some of their peers who may be at school collecting books at the same time.

During the specific slots below, we ask that one adult accompany one child onto our KS2 playground. We ask that all families enter, via our signposted one way system, from The Upper Drive. Families can make their way to the playground using the gate and path that runs from The Upper Drive, past the back of the staff car park, and then exit using the gate that goes directly onto the staff car park. All is clearly signposted and adults will be there to guide you. Clear 2 metre markings are evident throughout and we ask that these are followed and used at all times.

Once on the KS2 playground, you will find a range of tables each holding the children's books and any items that were left at school. Please collect the children's items before making your way to see the adults to say your hellos. Due to current restrictions, your child's class teacher / teaching assistant will need to be kept apart from new groups of children but we plan for them to be sat in the KS2 shelter, at a table. Please be respectful of space.

This initial visit will offer children a tentative dip of the toe onto the school premises whilst also offering them the chance to see some familiar faces. We ask that children remain with you at all times and do not engage in running around play. They are welcome to talk to peers, as long as distancing is maintained at all times. We are sorry to say but access to inside the school building, including toilets, will not be possible.

Monday 13 th July	
9.15am – 10.15am	2 St Bernadette
10.30am – 11.30am	3 St Joan
11.45am – 12.45pm	5 St Stephen
1pm – 2pm	2 St Claire

Tuesday 14 th July	
9.15am – 10.15am	4 St Andrew
10.30am – 11.30am	4 St Francis
11.45am – 12.45pm	5 St Cecilia

Thursday 16 th July	
9.15am – 10.15pm	3 St Patrick



August welcome event

Come August, we expect risk assessments regarding larger hubs eg a full class size, to have been agreed. As ever, we will continue to be guided by the Government, Local Authority and Unions. We are planning to invite children, from Years 2 - 5, back to school for an informal get together on the school field. This is planned to take place on Sunday 23rd August. Please note that other events eg a welcome for the new Reception children joining in September along with a farewell for the existing Year 6 children are already taking place on Saturday 22nd August plus The Outdoors Project are using the school field every weekday throughout the whole holiday, hence selecting Sunday 23rd. On this day, a range of school staff will be present and, where possible, their current teacher / teaching assistant. Children will have the opportunity to enjoy some games and activities whilst catching up with their friends. This will be the start of their welcome back to school.

Please can children bring a water bottle and wear a sun hat and sun cream. Children can wear home clothes. Parents will need to drop and collect promptly and at the given times and we ask that you do not congregate to chat outside the school premises but move on swiftly. Please enter via The Upper Drive path to the KS2 playground (as per the book collection in July) or via the field gate which can also be found on The Upper Drive.

Sunday 23 rd August		Lining up		Lining up
9am - 10.30am	2 St Bernadette	KS2 playground	2 St Claire	KS1 playground
10.45am - 12.15pm	3 St Joan	KS2 playground	3 St Patrick	KS1 playground
12.30pm - 2pm	4 St Andrew	KS2 playground	4 St Francis	KS1 playground
2.15pm - 3.45pm	5 St Stephen	KS2 playground	5 St Cecelia	KS1 playground

New class teachers and Annual Summary Reports

At present, adults are not permitted to move between hubs and teach different groups. If this becomes possible, in September, we will aim to hold a transition day on children's first day in school. This would be run as per the usual school day but children would return to their old classroom and spend the day with their current teacher and teaching assistant. On their next day in school, children would then start in their new class with their new adults. If this isn't possible, their new teacher will carry out a range of transition activities that will of course run until the children feel settled. Please note that all children will complete a range of transition and wellbeing activities throughout their first half term at school.

We aim to inform you of your child's new class teacher on Friday 10th July. On this day we also aim to send out your child's Annual Summary Report. Children will receive a video, via Seesaw, telling them who their new class teacher and teaching assistant are. This will be hosted by their current class teacher. As we are unable to hold our usual 'Meet The New Teacher' session, your child's new teacher and teaching assistant will also each post a welcome video. Children will be shown a video of their new class base but please remind them that these look very different due to the restrictions at present. We will also send a letter home saying which teacher will be teaching which class.

With regards to Annual Summary Reports, should you have any questions regarding the content, please email your child's class teacher by Wednesday 15th July, who will arrange a phone call with you.



Summer Home Learning

We are very aware that the children in Years 2 – 5 have not had traditional schooling since the end of March and, as a result, that some, could benefit from small amounts of continued home learning opportunities over the summer holidays. That said, we are equally aware of the challenges that families are facing and also recognise that many children will need some much needed down time. What we are offering is for those families who would relish some extra work. As ever, please just do what you can and remember that your child's health and wellbeing is paramount.

At the moment, children in Years 2 – 5 are using Seesaw, our range of weekly mini lesson videos plus the range of activities provided for them via Home Learning Grids. In addition to this, we are providing work packs containing paper copies of tasks and worksheets for parents who request them.

We will provide work packs for summer holidays use, for families who request them. For those wanting extra work, we recommend the use of these packs, as they will allow your child to continue to practise their skills, further develop their knowledge and understanding, and reduce the chance of forgetting prior learning; thus providing a strong foundation for moving on when they return. Packs will contain activity sheets in reading, writing and maths and we will provide enough work for approximately 4 weeks.

If you would like to receive a summer pack, please contact the teacher who is overseeing Home Learning for your child's year group by Friday 10th July (contact details below). We will only make up the resources as required. Once we have made the resources, we will ask you to come to school to collect the pack from the Office, or, could collect when you come to collect your child's books. Please note that, unless a pack has been pre ordered, we will not have one for your collection.

Y2 – Mrs McCartney	JoMcCartney@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk
Y3 – Ms Rodway / Mrs McGuire	zoerodway@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk hayleymcguire@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk
Y4 – Mrs Fletcher	jenniferfletcher@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk
Y5 – Mrs Brady Smith	erinbrady@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Please continue to be assured that we have everyone's best interests at the forefront of all that we do and please note that we will get all children back to school as soon as possible. Thank you for your kind emails. It has also been pleasing to hear all the positive feedback from this week's calls to every home. As always, we are all here should you need any support.

Please send our hellos to your child and let them know that we look forward to seeing them really soon. Later today, teachers will post another hello video from me to Seesaw and this will also be added to the Community section of the school website.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Many thanks

Rachel Breen, Headteacher

