

Queen Street, Little Hulton, Salford M38 0WH Tel: 0161 921 1940

E-mail: stedmunds.rcprimaryschool@salford.gov.uk Website: www.st-edmunds.salford.sch.uk/

Twitter: @st\_edmundsrc

Executive Headteacher Mrs C. Harrison Head of School Miss L. Moran

19th March 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Re: Coronavirus update – school closure to most pupils

Following on from our last update, we are now writing to let you know that we have now been instructed to close the school to almost all children <u>after this Friday</u> until further notice.

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of key workers and those who the government have advised we provide care for.

We are waiting for the government to publish more information on what this means, but it would help us in the meantime if you could let us know if you fall into this category by **Friday 20**<sup>th</sup> **March**. Please ring school as soon as possible. Schools must be aware of any children attending on Monday in order for us to operate safely. Further information will be sent home to these parents as soon as possible.

All other children will need to stay at home, so we ask that you do not send your child into school from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March onwards.

Please note that this is a national closure so while it is a challenging situation, we are not alone. We'll re-open fully as soon as we are told to do so. We will be operating a school with staff who are fit and able to be here to provide the support as outlined by the government.

## **Staying in Touch**

During the closure we'll keep in contact with you via our school text message service and our website. We are currently constructing a designated website page 'school closure' which will contain an e copy of all letters sent home and key information during this time.

Please do not visit the school as many staff will be working remotely. The school can be contacted via email.

Kellie Yardley, our family support worker, is able to talk to any families over the phone who require some advice. Mrs Yardley will be able to direct families to local community support during this difficult time. You can contact Mrs Yardley directly on 0161 921 2114, her availability will be published on the 'school closure' website page.

# **Home Learning**

Our IT provider has opened access to a file storage system that will allow teachers to share resources with pupils.

To access the file storage system:

Website: https://stedmunds.portico.salfordlearning.net/Login

Username: y2018 Password: Abc12345

All resources are located in the **HOMESCHOOL** drive. Resources shared on Portico should be downloaded and kept on your computer/ device. Please **do not upload resources** as this is a public forum and intended only to be used to retrieve documents. Please do not move or modify documents as this will stop other users from accessing materials. You are not required to 'hand in' these tasks they are designed to enable children to apply/revise previously taught skills on a temporary basis. Teachers will upload updated resources on a Thursday every week during the closure.



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#### **School Meals**

If your child usually receives free school meals we will also be in touch with more information about how we will continue to provide this, with support from a scheme that the government has just announced.

### **Cancellations**

In addition to the school cancellations already made, the government have also announced that all national testing has been cancelled for the academic year which includes end of KS1 & KS2 SATs, Y1 phonics screening and the Y4 multiplication check. We'll update you once we have further guidance about how we will assess our children during this time.

## School will be open tomorrow!

School will be open tomorrow and we will be showing the children lots of ways of occupying themselves at home. We aim to equip children with pointers of how to access online learning but also how to play educational and traditional games. Children are invited to wear non-uniform tomorrow and enjoy a day with their friends.

We are tremendously proud of the children and particularly the staff during this difficult situation. The children have coped with the increased hand washing and cleaning regime, plus the altered timetable and cancellation of specific events excellently. The staff in school have been amazing, their dedication to your children is a credit to them, their support for each other and care for our community is outstanding.

Thank you again for your continued support. This is as much as we know right now and we appreciate your continued patience with this as we deal with this ever-changing situation. We understand that this latest news will have an impact on you and your family and it's far from ideal, but we'll continue to keep in touch with any updates as the situation develops.

Yours sincerely,

St Edmund's Senior Leadership Team (Mrs Harrison, Miss Moran & Miss Berry)