



# SEE THE GRAPEVINE

Monday 11th January 2021 X1 · I · MMXXI

Morning. How are you all!? Are you at least ok? May I once again start my Newsletter by thanking everyone for their magnificent support you have afforded us during the past week, it really is most kind. School seems great, we've done this before haven't we (well, with the exception of our new reception parents—we must look out for them; it's all new to them. Remember how confused, frightened and anxious we were 1st time round..... Check in on them folks please if you can! Let me continue by thanking, and, for what it's worth sending encouragement to those doctors and nurses on the front line. I really don't know what to say to you, apart from thank you. It is your work that allows me to sleep at night – your work keeps me calm and reassured.... thank you so much.

Do remember if you're not happy with on line learning you can, as explained by the Secretary of State for Education, report us to OFSTED. A supportive move by Gavin, and one which really motivated us teachers, and sent out a strong signal that we're all in it together. *'If parents feel their child's school is not providing suitable remote education they should first raise their concerns with the teacher or headteacher and, failing that, report the matter to Ofsted.'* Having been in school on Monday, schools were given 12 hours to get ready..... Juxtaposition to the MPs, who were recalled 2 days later. I don't want to get petty—but this was a school boy error by the government. It's sad that the focus on assumption and reaction was "to complain" and "threaten" rather than to "support" and "encourage"

In school, the kids have been great - but I also know the kids have been great at home as well. Kids at home - you're not missing out on anything. Remember your role - it's to be a stay at home superhero! There's nothing more essential than that at the moment. We all have to stay at home, unless our work is essential to the countries Covid 19 response. Teachers are working from home, calling into school only when essential. For example, this week, you will see Louise in school, and zooming from her classroom—something we're trying to avoid, but its essential for the next 10 days due to staffing absence. But please don't feel your child is disadvantaged by being at home; they're not. Indeed that should be the primary place they should be, coming to Day Stay only if essential.

To help you scaffold your weeks :

**Newsletters** will still come out on Mondays, providing a tick list, aimed at keeping you up to date, effective and organised.

To keep it all real, and to stop our heads going at a million miles an hour, I will resume the much acclaimed (by me anyhow), **6 Sunday Saviours**. These are small, achievable things to, well achievable in a week. To ensure we're not overwhelming ourselves, to ensure we don't feel rubbish, to ensure we keep up only with ourselves.... not the Jones'.

**Parbold Pop Ups**. (Monday, Wednesday, Friday around 7.30am)

Education should be a joy, not a chore. As an adult, we'd feel pretty rubbish if we were forced to do things against our will. We know we don't give it our all then, we know we don't do our best. We know we don't concentrate the same. It's the same for kids. They're no different. And teaching is an art, a skill, a profession that we're trained to do – don't try and match that! You're a mum, or a dad..... be the best you can be at that – its far more important than being a teacher.

Above all folks, take care of yourselves. Don't worry. Don't stress. And be kind – to yourself, and to those around you. They need you right now.

Take care folks,

Andy

help@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk (An email for parents if you need, err, help..... money/food/computers/behaviour etc

worrybuster@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk (An email for kids to email in if they're are worried about anything)



# SEE THE GRAPEVINE

## SNOW/WINTER WEATHER PROCEDURES

Just for information... should the snow come a little heavier... I will predominantly keep you posted of the state of affairs via facebook, email and the school website – front page, latest news.... this will take you to the Snow Blog! We encourage you to use these as your initial ports of call should you need clarification on school opening.

We will also put a message on the answer phone – all subject to access to the computer systems which tend to go down when you need them!

I will endeavour at all times to keep the school open; this isn't just dependent on my decision, but also whether we have enough staff in school, not just to keep the kids safe, but to educate them! And teacher attendance isn't a reflection of their dedication or determination to get to work – for some people this is their default assumption. We must acknowledge that we have staff now who travel further! It was only a few years ago when I was the furthest commuter – from Wigan! Now though I've moved, Emma, and Michelle travel from the Sefton area, Nic travels from Preston, and, well Louise just doesn't drive in the snow! That said – I will do my very best to keep the school open at all times.

Should snow be heavy please let's use common sense – a very underrated ability of human beings. The yards, paths and roads will be slippery... take care, and if you judge the journey to work to be too treacherous... don't make it. Safety must at all times be paramount.

For your convenience, and in the spirit of the team work between home and school, when we do have snow difficulty remember we do keep the registers open until 10:00am... so please... keep safe.

Let's start as we mean to go on.....

- Do not send your child to school if they, or anyone in the household has symptoms of COVID-19 (high temperature, cough, change in taste or smell, and in children increasingly stomach cramps, diarrhoea, vomiting) If you are your child has any of these symptoms please get a test, and await the results before your return to school
- Do not send your child to school if they, or anyone in your household are awaiting test results.
- Do not send your child to school if they or anyone in your household has tested positive.
- Do not send your child to school if they have been contacted by test, track and trace.
- Do not send your child to school if you have been on holiday and have to self isolate as part of quarantine.
- Do not send your child to school if they have received advice that they need to resume shielding.

Massive thanks to Leanne and Stacey in the kitchen for carrying on—providing hotmeals each day—for staff and kids! Great team players. A menu is attached! Leanne and Stacey have written a 3 week menu based on food that she can get in, and food that I like!

## Start 2021 as you mean to go on!

Join the facebook page.

St Georges Primary Chorley

Subscribe to twitter @stgeorgesce

Synchronise a tablet or phone to the calendar.

Read the newsletters

Monitor SCO pay

Remember, you can now order uniform from 2 authorised locations. [Either Price and Buckland, using the link from the website; convenient for home delivery](#), or from [Jada, in Chorley, convenient for in-stance purchase, and for trying on!](#)

## Admissions:

If you have a child who should start school in September 2021 please ensure that you have read the admissions process on the website at school, and at church... all your questions should be answered there. Alas, we wont be able to show people round this year, but our virtual tour is now on the website.