



# St Anne's Church Academy @Hewish & @West Wick

Term 6 Newsletter July 10<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

After another busy week in school and online, the end of term is fast approaching. As usual at the end of term, we are very busy making plans for September. We are very pleased that we will be opening our lovely school to all our pupils in September including welcoming a new set of Busy Bees on both sites. I am busy putting all the preparations in place to meet government guidelines to keep everyone safe and minimise social mixing and these preparations and full details of plans will be shared in a letter early next week so please look out for that letter.

Next week, we look forward to seeing some of the children who have not been into school yet but we will also have a tear in our eye as we say goodbye to our wonderful year 6 children. Due to social distancing guidelines, we are unable to hold our usual end of year 6 celebrations but we are planning to make the end of term as special as we can and have made adaptations to the leaving worship. This group of learners are an absolute delight and have been incredible throughout their time at St Anne's but especially since their return to school. They are mature, resilient and have proved themselves to be simply wonderful individuals and we are sure that they will thoroughly enjoy their secondary journeys. We will miss them enormously.



Have a wonderful weekend.

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## END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

Just a reminder that all children in Busy Bees, Year 1 and Year 6 will have their last day of term on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July** when each bubble will hold a small celebration of learning in the afternoon from 1pm. Children in years 2, 3, 4 and 5 have been invited into school to reconnect with their teachers and classmates on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July either in the morning 9am -11am or in the afternoon 1pm – 3pm – everyone should have received a text to let you know which session their child needs to attend. If you haven't, please contact the school. We have tried to be as helpful as possible to you by arranging the sessions so that any siblings have the same morning session. The plan is that children will come to their 'usual' classrooms and then go outside with their teaching staff whilst adhering to social distancing guidelines. Your children can bring a water bottle and a snack box so that they can have a 'mini' picnic outside. We cannot wait to see them. Fingers crossed for lovely weather!

## SCHOOL DOG

St Anne's has wanted to have a school dog to support children's social and emotional development and wellbeing for a while now and luckily the opportunity has arisen as our Learning mentor Mrs Few has recently welcomed a very beautiful little puppy Maggie into her home during the lockdown period. Maggie is 5 months old now. She is a Cavapoo - a cross between a cavalier spaniel and a poodle. She has been busy completing 8 weeks of 'zoom' puppy classes during the lockdown and she is responding well to this training.

She is a real character. She loves eating boiled eggs, hot dog sausages and cheese and she loves playing with frozen peas. Maggie is very playful and loves going out for walks and chasing a ball. She enjoys a cuddle and getting lots of attention and we are sure she will love being part of the St Anne's crew. She will be based at our Hewish campus with her 'mum' Mrs Few and will help to support children and staff well-being. We are hoping to put Maggie to work as a reading dog where reluctant readers can be encouraged to read with Maggie. Reading with a dog is very effective and helps to build a child's confidence as mistakes are never a problem for a dog. Spending time with Maggie will also help children who are struggling with big emotions. We cannot wait for Maggie to start in September. Here is a little picture of Maggie, isn't she cute?



### SUMMER FREE SCHOOL MEAL SCHEME

The government recently announced the Summer Free School Meal scheme for families currently in receipt of weekly benefit related free school meal vouchers. On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July eligible families will receive their usual voucher amount alongside one additional summer free school meal voucher. This will be the final voucher and is designed to cover the summer holidays. In September, free school meals and Universal Free school meals for EYFS and KS1 children will continue to be provided in school.

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Circumstances are always changing, especially during the current climate so if you think you are eligible for free school meals please apply.

There are two schemes for free school meals:

- universal infant free school meals for all children in reception year, year 1 and year 2 – you don't need to apply as they're automatically given at the school
- free school meals for people on qualifying benefits – you'll need to apply for these

If you claim qualifying benefits and your child is entitled to universal infant school meals, you should still apply for free school meals so:

- you're eligible for other financial assistance for items such as school trips
- the school can receive funding for the free school meals

Follow this link for eligibility and application:

<https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/local-schools/schoolmeals/freeschoolmeals/>

### CAR PARK @WEST WICK

Due to the increased number of children attending school and nursery, please can we remind all West Wick parents to refrain from using the car park when dropping children off in the morning or picking up at the end of the day.

If you are using the car park for nursery drop-off please be very mindful of the 5mph speed limit. These rules will continue in September. Many thanks.

### SUMMER LEARNING

We have almost made it to the summer holidays and what a term it has been. Some children have been in school continuing their learning and others have continued with their home learning. All the children have done a brilliant job and all of the St Anne's staff have been amazed at how motivated and engaged our children have been. All of our children need their summer break and you all need to be able to stop being their teachers and become their parents again. (I know lots of you will now be breathing a sigh of relief!) Each teacher sent home a 'keeping up with your learning' document with a list of ideas to keep your child engaged with school and to prepare them for September. Feel free to dip into this when you can. These documents are being uploaded onto the class pages of the website for your information. Children can always use Time Table Rock stars, spelling shed and Bug club as little time fillers to support their learning. I really hope you all get a chance to have an enjoyable summer with your families and the weather is kind to us all.



**Contact the school on:**

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