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# Newsletter

## 10.7.2020

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As we complete the penultimate week of the strangest school year any of us have experienced, I find myself reflecting back on what we've all been through, looking forward to what the 'new normal' might look like in September, and in the short term, looking forward to a few weeks break for the summer.

This week, we saw our Year 3s and 4s come back to school for short sessions—it was just so lovely to see them, and we're sorry we can't offer them more time in school for the end of the year. We have been able to offer every child who has wanted to the chance to come back to school, see their friends and teachers and have a bit of a catch up to finish the school year—just over 80% of our school have returned, which is amazing. Many schools have only remained open for Years R, 1 and 6, so this has been a real achievement for us, and I am so grateful for all the staff who have worked so positively to make this happen for the benefit of the children. Thank you to all of you as well, I know it's tricky, especially if you have more than one child and are also trying to work yourselves, but I know that the children have really enjoyed their sessions, and it will make coming back in September a lot easier for them.

Speaking of September... I've spent the last two weeks working my way through the Government guidance for schools and have put together a series of plans and proposals and am due to meet with Governors next week. I have also had a very positive meeting with Tracy and Alison from Dawn Until Dusk regarding wraparound care from September. When plans been discussed, agreed, finalized, I will write to you to confirm arrangements, hopefully by the end of next week.

You will have received a letter earlier this week confirming your child's teacher for next year. We are sad that both Mr Renzi and Miss Kassim-Lowe will be leaving us, but we have appointed two fantastic new teachers who I know will be a great addition to our school—Mr Munday has been with us all week, and Mrs Corby has been with us for two mornings. She will be joining us again next Tuesday and Wednesday, but because she can only be released from her current school in the morning, we have had to change the timings for the Year 3 sessions—I am so sorry to be so disruptive, but we felt it really important that the children had the opportunity to meet Mrs Corby face to face; thank you for your understanding. Please see the enclosed table to confirm arrival/pick up times.

On Tuesday, we held a very strange, socially distanced meeting with parents of our new Reception children, to help them get ready for September, and to talk through the arrangements we are making for the transition of our youngest children into school. We are also talking about how we will support the transition of all children into their new classes when we restart in September—we will be focused on children's emotional well-being as well as their academic needs when we come back, recognizing the huge changes and upheavals experienced by us all.

Getting ready for September is a mammoth task, but we're all so excited to be getting ready for a return to some sort of normal! In the meantime, have a restful and peaceful weekend,

Very best wishes,

Maria & all the team at St James'

<b>Class</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Session Times</b>	<b>Drop off</b>	<b>Pick up</b>
Robins	Mon-Thurs	9.00-12.00 12.30-3.30	8.45-9.00 12.30-12.45 Please drop children at end of school drive	11.45-12.00 3.15-3.30 Pick up in Robins area
Whinchats	Mon-Thurs	9.00-12.00 12.30-3.30	8.45-9.00 12.30-12.45 Please drop children at end of school drive	11.45-12.00 3.15-3.30 Pick up area outside classroom
Canaries	Tues, Weds, Thurs	9.00-12.00 12.30-3.30	8.45-9.00 12.30-12.45 Please drop children at end of school drive	11.45-12.00 3.15-3.30 Pick up at classroom door
Green Jays	Tues or Weds	9.15-11.15	9.00-9.15 Please drop children at end of school drive	11.15-11.30 Pick up at classroom door
Kingfishers	Monday	9.15-11.15 1.00-3.00	9.00-9.15 1.00-1.15 Parents drop children in drop off zone	11.15-11.30 3.00-3.15 Pick up in main playground
Peacocks	Tues, Thurs	9.00-12.00	8.45-9.00 Please drop children at end of school drive	11.45-12.00 Pick up in main playground
Sabrewings	Mon-Thurs	9.00-3.15	8.45-9.00 Please drop children at end of school drive	3.15-3.30 Pick up in main playground
Rainbow Club	Mon-Fri	8.30-3.30	8.30-9.00 Parents drop off at Hall door before 8.45, after 8.45 please drop off at the end of the school drive	3.15-3.30 Pick up at Hall door

Please remember to maintain social distancing rules.

Please be prompt when collecting children, especially at the end of morning sessions—this is so staff have time to carry out essential cleaning tasks before the afternoon sessions begin. If in doubt, aim to arrive closer to 11.45 than 12.00.

For all classes, parents are asked to drop children at the end of the school drive and children will walk into school by themselves. This will help us reduce the number of people moving around the site. Members of staff will be present to ensure good supervision of children and ensure they stay safe. The only exception is those parents who drop children off at Rainbow Club between 8.30 and 8.45.



The PSA wanted to say **goodbye and good luck** to all the Year 6 children leaving St James' this year. Have fun at your new schools.

Please remember to **donate any unwanted uniforms** to our PSA pre-loved uniform shop. Details on how these will be collected will be laid out soon, but please just hang on to them for now.

mapac  Please pass this on to your parents

# IMPORTANT!

## PARENTS MUST ORDER BEFORE 3rd AUGUST TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!

Due to the current situation it is even more vital for parents to order their school uniform as early as possible. We will do everything we can to get orders out quickly, but the current situation may still lead to delays in dispatch & delivery times.

This message is particularly important for **NEW STARTERS**, as they have no existing uniform to wear!



**Thank you for helping us  
to deliver this message!**

*The Mapac Team*



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