

# ST MARK'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher: Ms Laura Kelsey BA (Hons), PGCE, CEPQH

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm sure you are all aware of the announcements last night and today from the government around what restrictions will ease at Step 4. We have been following them closely and considering what they mean for us at St. Mark's.

Having read the school's guidance that has come out today, we are going to continue to operate in our class bubbles until the end of term on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July. There are several reasons for this: some of the younger children have not experienced anything different at school and to change things for the last week of term will be overwhelming for them; the rule change around children (and double vaccinated people) not having to self-isolate do not come into force until 16<sup>th</sup> August which could lead to children, staff and families having a great risk of having to self-isolate for the first section of the holidays; the guidance released today states "If your school is still open at Step 4, you may wish to continue with these measures until the end of your summer term."

## Staggered Starts and Finishes

Due to this decision, we will still be operating the staggered starts and finishes and using the church yard until the end of term. Whether you wear a mask will be a personal choice but we do still ask you to maintain social distance to protect class bubbles.

## Sports Day - 21<sup>st</sup> July

As long as Step 4 goes ahead on the 19<sup>th</sup> July as planned, we have decided that we will be able to have adults attend sports day now. I am sorry that this is later notice than we usual give but we needed to wait to hear what the government plans were. I will confirm this can take place after the confirmation on the 12<sup>th</sup> July about the Step 4 date.

As I mention above, we will still be operating in class bubbles so Sports Day will be taking place across the day for different classes:

9.30 - 10.30 - Fern

10.45 - 11.45 - Bramble

1.00 - 2.00 - Laurel

2.15 - 2.45 - Bluebell

This will be taking place on the village green. There will be a designated area for adults to view from and we will be asking adults to keep their distance from the children as we are maintaining the bubbles but this should allow you to watch your child/ren competing on the day. This will look different from previous years due to them competing in classes rather than a whole school.



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Bluebell parents can collect their children from the green after their Sports Day. All other classes will be collected from the church as usual.

## Laurel productions - Shakespeare Rocks

Unfortunately, Shakespeare Rocks will still have to be filmed rather than a live production. This is because there are restrictions in place until at least the 19<sup>th</sup> July around singing and we have had to practice for the last month or so with the children spaced out at least a metre apart and it would be very challenging for the children to have only one day to practice a new way of doing the performance before a live performance.

We are very much looking forward to things returning to "normal" from September and thank you again for all your care and support this year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Kelsey".

Laura Kelsey  
Headteacher



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