

Stoneydelph Newsletter

Learn & Achieve

On behalf of all the school staff, I hope you are all keeping safe and well. It is great to have some more of our children back at school but very disappointing that we cannot have all of you back just yet.

Those children that have returned have been absolutely brilliant and are enjoying getting back to their learning in school. They have been very quick to adapt to the changed expectations in school and are absolutely brilliant at social distancing – they have the 2m apart rule totally sorted – better than lots of adults!!!!

Can I remind the parents of those children that have returned to school that it is crucial that if anyone in your immediate family household shows symptoms of COVID-19 you book a test immediately and follow the **'Test, Track and Trace Government Guidance'**. We would also request that you inform school straight away so that we can follow the processes we have been given in school as quickly as possible. Thank you for your support with this.

Continuing with home-learning for Years 2, 3, 4 & 5 (and children that have not returned in YR, 1 & 6)

I am sure you have seen the news this week where the Government have changed their mind regarding the return to school for children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 with the guidance being limited to only allowing the return of further year groups where there is capacity to do this maintaining the extensive guidance already issued. Whilst this current guidance has to be adhered to, we are unable to accept any further pupils back into school as we are at capacity.

In light of this we will be re-establishing additional measures to support learning from home, including the email and phone links with members of staff where you can share, celebrate and gain help and support with your children's home learning and well-being where necessary. As most staff are now busy teaching the children that have been directed to return to school, we will be reassigning groups of children to members of staff to keep in contact with. **They may not be your child's current class teacher.** The member of staff will be emailing you at the beginning of next week to make initial contact.

They will also be checking up on how you are getting on with the assigned learning on MyMaths, TTRockstars and Epic and will be looking forward to see how you are getting on.

Don't forget at the end of each exercise on MyMaths to press 'mark' so that it shows you how you have done and records the exercise as completed.

Learning will continue to be posted on the **school website: www.stoneydelph.staffs.sch.uk** following the links **Children and Class Pages**.

The Year 2 (and Year 1) learning will continue to be on the **Key Stage 1** page and there is a new page for **Key Stage 2 learning from June 1st** for pupils in Years 3, 4 & 5 (and Year 6).

Mrs Devitt will be in contact with the parents of the remaining children that have not returned in Reception.

It's very important that children continue to do some form of learning every day to keep their minds active and tuned in – otherwise they will find it very difficult to get back into learning when we do eventually start back. Even having a go at just a few of the activities will be beneficial. Staff will continue to make the learning as fun and practical as possible. We know that several families are struggling to juggle two, three or more children on one device each day. When the member of staff makes email contact, please don't hesitate to let us know and as previously, we will ensure a paper pack of learning is delivered.

I know that many of you have completed lots and lots of fantastic learning at home which we were looking forward to seeing if you had been coming back to school in the next couple of weeks. I know that there are lots of pieces that the staff are eager to enjoy looking at, see how you've got on and display ready for the start of the new academic year in September. Because of the delay in your return, we would like to invite you to **start to bring your work back to school** from next week. We will place a plastic box outside the Crowden Road Pedestrian gate and outside the Fossdale KS2 gate for you to place your work in between 10am and 11.30am next week (15th to 19th June) for pupils in Year 5 / 4 and the following week (22nd to 26th June) for children in Year 3 / 2. Please place your work in a big envelope, a carrier, a wallet or a folder and make sure your child's name is on please. We will also leave some spare folders in

the box should you need one. We will repeat this process closer to the end of term as well. Please be mindful of the weather – we don't want anyone's learning to be ruined in the rain!

If you have any further queries about this don't hesitate to contact via email to the link member of staff or the school office
office@stoneydelph.staffs.sch.uk

Since lockdown started, normal governance has been suspended by the Community Academies Trust (CAT) and The Trust have taken on governance of CAT schools, following Government guidance. However, Governors have still been in regular contact with school to ensure that all staff and pupils are keeping safe and well and doing all that they reasonably can in these most unusual times. Our Chair of Governors, Sue Ebrey has sent a message to parents and carers.

Dear Parents

Firstly, I hope you and all your family have managed to remain safe and well over the last few challenging weeks.

At Stoneydelph we are delighted to see children from the permitted year groups returning to our classrooms. We know for many parents that it has not been an easy decision to send your child back to school but we are heartened by the increasing numbers of parents who bring their children to us each day. Concerns over their safety are understandable. However the children themselves are happy in school and delighted to be back, able to safely learn with their friends.

The fact that the school is open is due to the hard work and commitment of all the staff. The Headteacher, Mrs Wallbank in particular, along with other members of staff who have supported her in this, have spent many, many hours planning, preparing and risk assessing for the return of children and a greater number of staff on site at any one particular time. Everyone is having to cope with new ways of doing things and while it can sometimes be a challenge, the welfare of children and staff is of primary importance at all times.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of myself and the Governing Body, to thank Mrs Wallbank for her dedication to her role in what is her last term of teaching in the school. I would also like to thank every other member of the school staff, whatever their role, for the work they are putting in to keep your children safe and happy while they are at Stoneydelph, and to keep the school running smoothly.

With best wishes

Sue Ebrey
Chair of Governors

Continue to stay safe and take care everyone – hope we can all be back at school together again very soon!

School Website Help Pages

If you need any help during this current situation please check our school website and click on the parents tab. There are numerous help pages regarding looking after your mental health, helplines and support groups, debt management, citizens advice bureau, malachi information and much more.

If you have a specific issue to discuss we also have Mrs Bevan our School Liaison and Support officer in school who is contactable from 9am until 1pm on the school telephone number or via our office email address.