**St Gregory’s C E Primary School**

New Street, Marnhull, Dorset. DT10 1PZ.

Tel: 01258 820206

e mail: office@stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk

[www.stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk)

**Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Field**

 **“Where learning has no limits”**

23rd October 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

It is so hard to believe we have already come to the end of our first half term back. What a half term it has been. The BIG RETURN to school, settling in, getting use to routines, bubble life, catching up with friends and high learning and behaviour expectations. The children have shown such resilience and we are all very proud of them. My thanks also goes to the amazing staff team at St Gregory’s who have worked tirelessly to ensure the transition back ran smoothly and to support and re-engage all our children back to school life.

**A few reminders / information**

****School Attendance: Children’s attendance is monitored very closely in school. I thought it would be interesting for parents to see each classes attendance this term .I am pleased to say that we have only dipped very slightly from this time last year – which is a huge credit to yourselves for getting your children to school and valuing the importance of them getting back to regular school life.

**Hedgehogs: 96% Owls: 93.4% Badgers: 96% Foxes: 94.1%**

**** The children have been receiving house points for good learning, behaviour and exhibiting our school values. The winning team is the Tornados (Red) with 446 points, closely followed by the Twisters (Yellow) with 434 points and finally our Hurricanes (Blue) with 279. Congratulations to all the teams and to those children who have been awarded house points this term.

****Parent Phone calls: After half term all staff will be having conversations with you regarding your children. These will be based on how they have settled back, their learning, any gaps that we have identified through our assessments, next steps and how you can support them at home.

As much as I love seeing all the children’s dogs not all of our youngsters are as keen on waggy tails and licks!!! Please can you refrain from lining up with them as some children have expressed concern at being too close. I am happy for them to be left by the school fence / railings.

Rainy day weather: more and more cold and wet days will soon be upon us. I really don’t want the children standing outside before their allotted entry times. Staff work hard to get classes ready and organised for the day – therefore we will be sticking to normal entry times on these days. It would be difficult to start bringing in children in drips and drabs due to mixing of bubbles etc and supervision.

All times for start and end of day will remain the same after half term apart from Hedgehogs class who will be able to come in at 9.00am.

You may have already noticed that I have got my winter jumpers out!!! Across the school we are ventilating the rooms as a safety measure and it is getting quite cold at times. After half term if you feel you would like to send in your child with and extra layer or two of clothing underneath their sweatshirts / cardigans please do so. I would rather they keep themselves warm.

A number of parents have expressed their concerns that there are still large gatherings of adults in the car park / on the pavement. I ask you to be respectful of social distancing and do not stay chatting in either spaces. We are working hard to keep the children safe in school and it is important that they see our community behaving in the same manner. This has been raised with our governing body, whom do not want to take a firmer approach but are willing to do so if necessary following on from this reminder.

 Hello Yellow Day: What a bright day was had!!! We raised a whopping £87 for this fantastic cause. THANK YOU for all your donations.

Please can I remind parents of the process if they have anything to ask regarding their children. First point of contact should be class teachers, following this the teacher may decide that it needs escalating to either myself, Mrs Barge or our school SENDCO, Miss Clack. If you feel that you need to speak with me following a discussion with any of the teachers – please get in touch to arrange a meeting or telephone call. THANK YOU.



Message from Revd Gaenor

It has been lovely to see the classes together for worship this term as we begin to get into a new routine online.

As we can’t gather all together in church at the moment, we are coming together on Monday afternoons on Zoom.

For this half term we have been focussing on the school value of courage- taking as our main Bible verse for this half term:

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

We have thought about Bible characters and people in recent history who because of their trust in God had enormous courage.

We have also celebrated Harvest and thought about what we can be thankful for. Thankfulness is our school value that we are exploring after half term.

This week we welcomed our new Year 6 worship ambassadors: Amy, Imogen, Jess, Lily, Scarlett, Taylor and Toby. They did a great job for their first time and will be involved with school worship for the rest of the school year.

As times are so uncertain it is always good to know that God never changes and so we pray with faith:

All of my life, in every season, you are still God.

With every blessing for a safe and happy half term holiday

Revd Gaenor

gaenor@protonmail.com 01258 821605

Facebook @stgregstea (for families & children) @stgregschurch (general)

website www.stgregorysmarnhull.org.uk



I would like to take this opportunity to wish you ALL a very safe, healthy and enjoyable half term .The children certainly deserve it and THANK YOU for the support you have shown myself and staff since September.

With warmest wishes to you all

Debbie Field

