November 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and Christmas is on the horizon.

**School Photographs**
Just a reminder the school photographer will be taking the children’s photographs tomorrow, Tuesday 5th November.

**Siams Inspection**
Last half-term was very busy, but very rewarding. Our SIAMS inspection recognised the ‘drive’ for aspiration; life chances and fullness of life for all:
‘The Christian vision of inclusion and aspiration shines brightly in this small church school. Leaders have achieved much in a short time as they strive to illuminate each star to shine uniquely.’

**Halloween Disco**
We closed the half-term with the Halloween Disco, organised by our hardworking, committed PTA. All the children thoroughly enjoyed this evening and it was great to see so many parent helpers in partnership with our Church of England Primary School.

**Parent Consultation** feedback fully supported the extended dialogue which is assured through spreading these appointments across two weeks rather than crammed into two evenings. We will continue to adopt this model in the March 2020 Consultations.

**Champions:**
Our football team were successful in winning the Small Schools Championship and progress to the next stage on Tuesday 5th November 2019.

A school where every child can shine
Congratulations also extends to our KS1 and Lower KS2 pupils who represented the school in the recent Athletics Competitions at Belper and Alfreton Leisure Centre.

**Harvest**
On Friday 11th October, our Harvest Act of Worship was dedicated to The Salvation Army and thank the organisation for attending our service. The donations this year were very much appreciated by the local and wider community.

**Remembrance Service**
On Friday 8th November at 2pm in St Michael’s Church our children will be involved in an Act of Collective Worship dedicated to the Beatitudes and Remembrance. All are very welcome to join us in this act of worship.

**Anti-Bullying Week** 11th November 2019:
The children will be involved in activities focused on well-being and keeping safe on social media. The week will close with a Drama Group visiting our school to reinforce key messages.

**Relationship Education** – Involving Parents and Partners.
In September 2020 the new framework for Relationship Education will become statutory. As the DfE statutory guidance states: ‘Parents should be given every opportunity to understand the purpose and content of Relationships Education. Good communication and opportunities for parents to understand and ask questions about the school's approach help increase confidence in the curriculum.’

In response to this we would like to invite parents and carers to an introductory meeting on 14th November 2019 in the school hall 6-7pm.

**New Classrooms:**
We have received the ‘Handover’ for the new classrooms. However, the landscaping and car park areas are still in progress. Across the next half-term, we will be in the process of moving some classes in to the new areas depending on the safety of the surrounding landscaping. We will reassess the official opening of our new building when the site is fully completed.

**Drop and Drive,** which saw an extension to the start of the school day by ten minutes (8.50 am to 8.40am) will still be in place across the
academic year 2019 2020. The main school door will be used for all children to enter.
Please support the aim to use the 20 minute window to drop and drive within that period of time, rather than queue up to drop off at 8.40 as this then recreates the line of parked cars on Moor Lane.
Local residents have reported that over the past weeks a long line of parked cars and queuing at the school gates as early as 8.35am has just moved the problem to earlier in the morning. Extending the Drop Off window was to create a longer time period to stagger the parked cars and when pupils were safely in school parents/carers would drive away promptly.
At the end of each school day, the dismissal of pupils will continue to be the same.

**Lateness:** On the very rare occasions where pupils are late an adult must take the child to the new school office to give the reason for the delay. All schools must monitor lateness and attendance.

Again, the Staff, Governors and I would like to thank everyone for making our small Church School so special and reiterate the Inspectors findings that: 'There is determination that pupils' lives will be enhanced, not hampered, by the school's size.'