

The Saint Raphael's News

19th July 2021 / 16th Sunday, Psalm 23

'The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want '



Firstly, as always, I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. This is the end of year newsletter for what has been again a very different year to the one we imagined and planned. However, there have been lots of things to celebrate at St Raphael's this year too. Firstly, our pupils have been amazing in their attitude, behaviour and hard work this year.

Throughout the year the children have continued to work hard and be kind to each other and they should be very proud of themselves. We have loved seeing all their work on Seesaw and Tapestry as well as the work that they have completed in school. Thank you to parents and carers too who have supported your children and St Raphael's so well with their work in school and during periods of home schooling.

I also feel that the way that the whole community of St Raphael's has responded to the challenges of these difficult times is to be recognised and is something which has been much appreciated and of which we should all be very proud. Thank you for all the support, messages and prayers that you have sent for the staff and pupils- they have made a huge difference.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS:

The Year 6 Leavers' Play was brilliant and was a showcase for the talents and confidence of our pupils. Well done to all involved in making this such a success. The Leavers' Assembly this morning was a wonderful celebration of the children's time at St Raphael's.

The whole community sends love, prayers and best wishes to our Year 6 pupils as they leave us and begin life at their secondary schools. They have been an amazing set of pupils that it has been our privilege to teach and to see grow into the brilliant young people they are today. We are immensely proud of you and know that you will continue to flourish and succeed at your new schools. We will miss you and thank you for everything that you have done at St Raphael's.

We also say goodbye to a number of families as our Year 6 pupils leave. These families have contributed to life at St Raphael's in a variety of ways over many years and I would like to thank you for all that you have done.

END OF YEAR REPORTS: You will have received your child's end of year school report. We are very proud of the amazing achievements of the children and their resilience in the face of various interruptions to the school year.

UPDATE ON SEPTEMBER PLANS: You will be aware of the new national guidelines regarding Covid-19. We have now had advice both from the DfE and from Tameside which have allowed us to plan the following for the new school year **starting on Thursday 2nd September** when the children return to school.

- Class Bubbles will no longer be required either in school or at the start or end of the school day
- **For the start of the day** the children in **years 1-6** will enter school through the main gate. The children can arrive between 8.45am and 8.55am and will go straight to their classrooms where staff will meet them. We will no longer go to the playground before school.
- Miss Southworth and other members of staff will be at the main gate to take any messages from parents
- Children in **Nursery and Reception** class will enter via the path at the rear of the Parish Hall and will go through the gate to the EYFS playground. Nursery children will go in through the Nursery Cloakroom and Reception children through the rear Reception door.
- **At the end of the school day** the main school gate will be opened by a member of staff at 3.10pm. Parents/carers of children in **years 1, 2 and 3** will collect their child from the door of their classroom.

May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together

Parents/carers of children in **years 4, 5 and 6** will collect their child from the door outside year 4. Parents will be able to wait on the main playground.

Children in **Nursery and Reception** class will be collected from either the Nursery Cloakroom or the rear door of the Reception class. They will then leave school via the path at the rear of the Parish Hall. Thank you for your understanding of these arrangements.

- At lunchtime children will no longer be required to sit in rows and more children will be allowed in the hall together.
- In classrooms children will no longer need to sit in rows.
- Control measures such as hand sanitising, extra cleaning and nose blowing stations will still be used in school as recommended by Tameside and the DfE
- Measures may be increased should an out break occur in school and the Outbreak Management Plan would be implemented.

Once again all our decisions and plans have the safety and wellbeing of our pupils, staff and parents/carers as the priority. The risk assessments and plans have involved Tameside Local Authority, the DfE, St Raphael's Governing Board as well as staff. The Risk Assessment will now be replaced with an Outbreak Management Plan which will be available on the school website from September. If you have any questions regarding this please contact myself at school.

Thank you in anticipation for your co-operation and understanding with these arrangements.

As always we will be constantly reviewing our arrangements and control measures and may have to alter these if circumstances either in school or nationally change.

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION: The before and after school club that we opened in school last year has been a great success and proved very popular. We are therefore going to continue with this club. Thank you for your support and thanks to all staff who have organised and staffed the club.

The annual agreement and booking forms will be emailed to all parents/carers this week. The provision opens at 8.00am in a morning and closes at 4.30pm in the afternoon and is charged at £4.00 per session with a 25% discount for siblings attending. All details will be on the email you receive.

READING BOOKS: Please could we ask that any school reading books are returned to school before the summer holidays. You may have books that were taken home during the lockdown period which are still at home- it's never too late to return them.

PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS FROM CORONAVIRUS: Please make sure you are aware of the latest guidance in relation to coronavirus which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>. In addition, if you are travelling abroad over the summer, please check the quarantine requirements which may be in place.

On our return in September, we are advised by the guidance that any pupils or staff who have symptoms of Covid-19 or are living with someone who does so should not attend school. Please notify us to ensure we apply the correct registration codes.

HOMELEARNING - SEESAW and TAPESTRY: There will be no work set during the summer holidays. However, if any pupils want to use the links on the school website to sites such as Prodigy, Times Tables Rock Stars and the online reading sites these will remain available [here](#).

INSPIRE SUMMER CAMPS: Inspire Active who work with our children at lunchtimes in school have Summer Camps available which are now open for booking.

They will be offering a range of sports, fun games, activities, treasure hunts, cheerleading and much more. Places are strictly limited due to ongoing covid restrictions, so please book now, using the link below, to avoid disappointment:

<https://inspire-sports-coaching.class4kids.co.uk>

E-mail us on: info@inspire-sc.co.uk or message us on Facebook

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE There is also the Summer Reading Challenge run by Tameside libraries which I know that lots of our pupils have enjoyed taking part in in previous years.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES: Here are some more links to activities to keep the children entertained over the holidays!

<https://www.familiesonline.co.uk/local/tameside/in-the-know/free-summer-holiday-activities-and-tameside-children-centres>

<https://tamesidesportsnetwork.co.uk/activities-for-kids/>

<https://www.netmums.com/local/search?location=Tameside&tag=holiday-clubs>

[Funtasia Kids Club | Kids Holiday Club in Stalybridge \(funtasiakidsclubs.co.uk\)](http://Funtasia Kids Club | Kids Holiday Club in Stalybridge (funtasiakidsclubs.co.uk))

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/Surestart/Guide-to-Out-of-School-Clubs>



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING COURSE: BRAND NEW!! Online course 'Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing' from the Solihull Approach (NHS). Tameside Local Authority have paid for all residents in Tameside to access this online learning course. Full details on how you can access this are provided on the last page of the newsletter.

STAFFING NEWS: We welcome back Mrs Lee following her maternity leave. We also look forward to welcoming Mrs Joanne Stevenson to St Raphael's community. Mrs Stevenson will initially work alongside Miss Anderton in Year 2 teacher from September 2021. I know that we will welcome Mrs Stevenson to the St Raphael's community.

We also look forward to welcoming back Miss Alison Sellers who will work two days a week at St Raphael's teaching across the school.

We say goodbye and thank you to Miss Hadfield in our office team who will be leaving us at the end of this term.

Finally we send Miss Anderton our best wishes for her wedding in the summer holidays. She will be Mrs Murphy when we return in September.

May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together

The staffing arrangements for next Year are in the table below.

Class	Teachers	TAs
FS1	Mrs S McLeod	Mrs Z Wells
FS2	Mrs C Shields and Miss L Wilson	Mrs C Melville-Terry
Y1	Mrs K Neale	Mrs L Blay
Y2	Miss S Anderton (Mrs S Murphy)	Mrs J Stevenson
Y3	Miss C Taylor	Mrs K Stoddard
Y4	Mrs J Lee	Mrs M Rankin
Y5	Miss G Pollitt	Mrs K Stoddard
Y6	Mr D Matthews	Miss L Gavin
<p>Mrs G Southworth Inclusion and Family Liaison Manager Mrs C Tortoishell will work in KS 1 and KS 2 doing intervention and support work. She will also be focusing on nurture clubs and outdoor sessions in our outdoor classroom area.</p>		

TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES: We have been advised by Tameside LA that there will be an additional Bank Holiday due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. This means that the pupils are required to be in school for 189 days during the 2021-22 year. Also the Spring Bank Holiday that would have fallen on 30th May, 2022 has been moved to 3rd June, 2022. These days fall within the Whit holiday period therefore the LA have recommended that a day is taken off the term finish date in July. We will now close for the summer break on Thursday 21st July, 2022.

Please see the revised school term and holiday dates accompanying this newsletter.

SCHOOL UNIFORM: We appreciate that parents will be purchasing school uniform during the summer holidays ahead of the Autumn Term. Our children always look smart in their uniform and from September we will be monitoring uniform standard more closely. The list of school uniform is below and I would like to draw your attention in particular to the following;

- Our uniform is black school shoes not trainers or trainer style shoes, thank you for following this.
- In PE children will need plain, navy blue PE shorts not cycling shorts or skorts please.
- Black pumps will be worn for indoor PE and trainers only for outdoor PE.
- Extreme hairstyles, tram lines and dyed hair are not permitted.
- Jewellery, apart from watches, is also not permitted this includes ear piercing covered with plasters.

Winter Uniform - Autumn Term

- Grey Skirt / Pinafore / Trousers.
- Y1-Y6 - Plain Blue Shirt.
- Y1-Y6 - Blue and Yellow Tie - Rip Tape / Clip or Traditional.
- EYFS - Plain Blue Polo Shirt / School Branded Polo Shirt.
- School Branded Blue Jumper / Cardigan

Footwear

- Sensible, closed toe, black shoes only.
- Boots /Trainers /Heels are not allowed.

PE Kit - Reception to Year 6

- Indoor - Navy Blue PE Shorts, School Branded Blue PE T-Shirt and Black Pumps.
- Outdoor - Years 1-6 - Navy Tracksuit/Sweatshirt/Jogging Bottoms, School Branded Blue PE T-shirt and Trainers.
- Children also need a school PE bag which is clearly marked with their name.

May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together

School Bags

- Reception Class and Year's 1-4 are to use a school book bag as their schoolbag.
- Year's 5 and 6 may use their own schoolbag.

Details of the full uniform and stockists can be found on the school website [here](#).

MESSAGES FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE: As we reach the end of the year, please can we make some reminders as follows;

- Please ensure any outstanding monies are paid via School Money. Any outstanding monies after this time will remain on School Money. In addition, any remaining credit will also transfer.
- Please ensure any outstanding dinner monies are paid by the end of term online at Tameside.
- School Meals in September will start new on day 1 therefore if you are planning on changing this is the best time to do so as after this day the standard two weeks' notice is required. School meals will be priced at £2.40 per day, from 1st September 2021.
- Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still receive a free meal each day under the UIFSM initiative.
- Nursery Wraparound and 30 Hours Childcare will start from W/C 6th September 2021. Please make sure you have completed a wraparound registration form or applied to the DFE and have your eligibility code before 31.08.2021. All parents need to complete and sign the parental declarations, these will be done in the first few weeks.
- In the first few weeks back, we will be asking you to complete an online data form updating us with any changes of contact details for each child in school, please complete this as soon as possible to ensure we have the correct details for every child in school. This is especially important for the mobile and email addresses we use to contact you via Text, Email, School Money and Parents evening.

Finally, I would like to once again give a huge thank you to all the staff, Governors, Father Philip and Deacon Antony for their support and help during what has been a challenging time not only for schools but for the whole country.

The staff have worked tirelessly throughout the year to keep the children safe and happy as well as to teach them either face to face or at times via homelearning. I would also like to thank Mr Matthews whose hard work has been integral to all the plans and decisions that have been made. I am very proud to be the headteacher of St Raphael's school and to have a community who have worked as a team during this period with such dedication and with good humour.

I hope that you and your families stay safe and well during the summer holidays and enjoy family time. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school on the email address below.

With best wishes and prayers,

Mrs Lynn Lakner (Headteacher)

head@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk

0161 338 4095

BRAND NEW!!

Online course 'Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing' from the Solihull Approach (NHS).

Access for free:

Did you know Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council have PRE-PAID for every parent and carer in Tameside to access a course for parents/carers (access now for life-long access)? FREE (with access code: **SUNFLOWER** at: www.inourplace.co.uk) for residents in our area. There are courses for parents, carers and grandparents about children from bump to 19+ years.

The poster features logos for 'UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD SOLIHULL APPROACH', 'ourplace', and 'NHS'. It includes the website 'WWW.INOURPLACE.CO.UK' in a green curved banner. The main text reads: 'FREE Online course for parents 'UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING''. Below this, it states 'ONLINE LEARNING (AVAILABLE 24/7)' and 'WORK THROUGH THE CONTENT ANONYMOUSLY AT YOUR OWN PACE'. A group of diverse children is shown peeking over a dark blue banner that lists course completion steps: 'COMPLETE PART 1', 'COMPLETE 'UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD' OR 'UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS' (SOLD SEPARATELY)', and 'COMPLETE PART 2'. A purple arrow graphic points to these steps. At the bottom, it says '*PREPAID FOR RESIDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR AN ACCESS CODE'.

How do I access?

www.inourplace.co.uk

What's the code?

- If you haven't used it already here is the access code for all the online courses (funded for residents): **SUNFLOWER**
- If, like many parents, you have already used this code, log into your account [here](#) and this course will be ready in your dashboard to start whenever you are ready.

Can I tell my family and friends?

Absolutely! Share the news with family members and other families in the area so that they too can take advantage of this fantastic opportunity.

How long is it?

'Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing' itself is in 2 parts (2 modules long in total):

1. Take **Part 1**....
2. ...then take '**Understanding your child**' OR '**Understanding your child with additional needs**' (11 modules each taking 10-15 minutes to complete, benefitting from time to digest in between)....
3. ...then take **Part 2**.

If you like this...

...you might like the other courses '**Understanding your teenager's brain**' (short course) or '**Understanding your child's feelings**' (taster course), or other courses in the series. www.inourplace.co.uk

May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together