

# King Athelstan Primary School

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Headteacher: Emily Newton

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of this unusual term. We hope you had a good half term break and that you were able to get out and enjoy the lovely weather.

Lots has changed in school over the past few weeks! You will be aware from the national news that schools have been undertaking preparation



for wider opening from 1<sup>st</sup> June. The changes we have implemented mean the school looks very different to how it looks normally. There is a one-way system for arrival and pick up times, very little furniture in classrooms and lots of tape to help



everyone remember which way to walk and to maintain social distancing. This week some of Year 1 and Year 6 are coming back to school on a part-time basis.

Next week some of Reception Class are returning. They are working in small groups called "bubbles" and arrive/leave at staggered times. Each bubble has been given the name of a piece of art by their usual class artist. The bubbles spend all their time together without seeing the other bubbles. They even eat their lunch in their classroom and play together without anyone else! We continue to have our keyworker families and those who meet wider government criteria on site each day too.



We are continuing to send out learning slides for each year group. These are uploaded onto the website. Videos are now being uploaded onto our YouTube Channel - links on the website. Please do what you can from the learning opportunities and please continue to contact us if you need the slides printed out. If your child is in a year group that is returning to school, you will notice a star on the reading, writing and maths slides starting from this week. If your child is back in school, they will be working on these in class. Please complete the other creative slides and continue to practise basic skills like spellings, TT Rockstars and j2e. Once they have been in school, if they want to do additional follow up work on the reading and writing slides then that's fine.

Some aspects of school activity have resumed almost as normal. We have had the canopies outside Year 1 and all the EYFS classrooms replaced with modern metal structures and translucent Perspex panels. The canopies are slightly larger than the old wooden ones and provide shade as



well as shelter. The fencing around this area will be replaced in the coming weeks. The huge outdoor learning project in KS2 playground has started. The team from Playforce have created a



compound and are now preparing the ground for the new climbing frames that replace the trim trail. This involves digging down 600mm to get out the roots of all the old trees that had to be cut down in the past few years. They have also started to dig the running track around the edge and will soon dig out the pond area. There will be lots of new planting of trees and shrubs in the playground too.

The section being completed now will be the main part of the KS2 playground. It leaves the pond and planting area that we will need to seek funding for. There will also be some aspects of surfacing to complete outside this contract.



It's been lovely to see all the home learning children have been doing. Thank you for sharing this with us by email and via the j2e platform.

Currently, we do not know what the rest of the term has in store for us however, we will keep in touch regularly to let you know any developments. A few people have asked about personal items that children have left in school - in the event that some children will not return to school at all this term, we will make plans for these as well as the return of school resources (reading books/ukuleles etc) towards the end of term. You do not need to do anything about these at the moment.

Have a lovely week and thank you for your messages of support and kindness - they are much appreciated by us all.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher