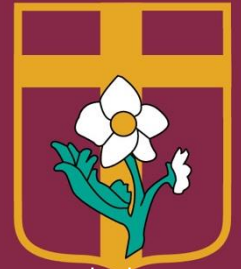


# St. Dunstan's Catholic Primary School

# Newsletter



Executive Headteacher: Mrs J. Birch: [head@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:head@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)  
Head of School: Mrs G. Morganti: [headofschool@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:headofschool@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

September 2023

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Dear Parents,

We are already well underway with our new academic year! What a happy and very exciting start we have had. We were all absolutely delighted to welcome so many of you to our Introduction to Year Talks last Thursday evening; it was standing room only in the hall despite the heat...thankfully our FoSD had organised cold refreshments for us all. I would like to thank you for your very positive feedback following the evening and your commitment to our school and the exceptional education we strive to provide for the children.

The newsletter is bursting with information as usual, so please do take time to read through it. If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff or call/email the school office; senior leaders are always on hand before and after school either on Lower School or Kitchen Gates, or in the playground after school.

Wishing you all a very successful academic year full of exciting learning and new adventures.

*Julianne Birch*

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## Arrival Window:

### 8.40am – 8.55am

There is an arrival window in place to assist with parking and to reduce congestion without impacting on lesson time. The arrival window is working well although there are still a significantly greater number of people arriving and waiting at 8.40am than at 8.50am. Please remember that there is an arrival window between 8.40am and 8.55am. You may find it easier and quieter to wait until later in the arrival window to arrive, as long as the children are walking through the gate by **8.55am** when school officially starts. The register is taken at 9am to allow children who walk through the gate at 8.55am to get to their classrooms in time.

In order for the arrival window to work, please move your car as soon as your child is safely through the staff supervised gate at 8.40am so that another parent can park in your space...especially if you have parked in the church car park. Thank you for your consideration.

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## Attendance and Absence

### Why is school attendance so important?

School lays the vital foundations for a child's future life. There is strong research that shows that irregular attendance can adversely affect academic and social development. As a child's level of overall absence increases, the likelihood of achieving key attainment outcomes decreases. Whilst the school's level of attendance is returning to good levels compared to other schools nationally, it is yet to return to the very high levels pre-Covid. The school has an ethos of the highest expectations of self and others and we strive for the best we can be in everything we do.



Every message we give our children must reinforce the importance of education. When children are absent from school, they miss out on consistent teaching that is needed to develop basic skills. This can have a snowball effect that impacts future learning. Not only do children miss the academic side of their learning, but the children are also disadvantaged socially as the other children move on with their friendships and relationships while the children are absent. Absence from school not only disadvantages the absent child but also the rest of the children in the class as the teacher has to spend time with the child who has been absent, helping them to catch up on their return. Other than for exceptional reasons such as illness, this is simply not fair.

### Authorisation of absence during term time

A pupil's absence during term time can seriously disrupt their continuity of learning. Not only do they miss the teaching provided on the days they are away, they are also less prepared for the lessons on their return. There is consequently a risk of underachievement. Parents should not take any unauthorised leave of absence during term time.

### Penalty Notices and Fines

Parents do not have the right to take their child out of school for any period of time. All parents seeking leave of absence must complete an 'Application for leave of absence/exceptional circumstances' form. It is for the Head Teacher to decide whether or not there are exceptional circumstances. All requests for leave of absence are treated sympathetically, but the policy of Surrey County Council, to which this school has agreed, is that other than in exceptional circumstances, absences during term time will not be authorised. This is explained to parents before they accept a place for their child at St. Dunstan's and is stated in the welcome booklet issued to parents. Parents sign the home school agreement agreeing to adhere to the school's policy on absence in term time.

The Governors' Attendance Policy (available on the school website:

<http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk/Policies/Welfare%20and%20Inclusion/Attendance%20and%20Punctuality.pdf> explains that if parents persist in taking their child out of school without the approval of the school, they will be liable to receive a Penalty Notice for failing to ensure their child's regular

school attendance. **Each parent will be liable to receive a Penalty Notice for each child who is absent.**

The Penalty Notice is for £60 if paid within 21 calendar days and £120 if paid after this time but within 28 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in you being served with a summons to appear at the Magistrates Court.

If the absence exceeds 20 days, your child's names will be removed from the school roll and you will have to reapply for places upon your return.

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## Children's Learning

**Mrs G. Morganti – Head of School**

At St. Dunstan's, we aim to develop expertise across the curriculum for all staff and work in teams to develop the curriculum subjects.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding your child's learning in the curriculum please speak with your child's Head of Year as they drive the year group curriculum. If you have a specific question in relation to a curriculum subject you can email, via the office, the teacher who is leads the subject. (Please see table below.)

### SUBJECT LEADERSHIP 2023-2024

Subject Area	Staff Member
<b>Religious Education</b>	Whole School- Mrs S. Turner
<b>English</b>	Whole School - Miss H. Fail Phonics- Mrs L. King Library - Miss N. Maloney
<b>Maths</b>	Whole School Leader - Miss E. Roe Lower School - Miss K. Bingle
<b>Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)</b>	Mrs S. Turner and Miss McMahon
<b>Computing curriculum Online Safety (curriculum)</b>	Mrs H. Robbins
<b>Online Safety Leader</b>	Mrs A. O'Donovan
<b>Science</b>	Mrs T. Steer
<b>PE Curriculum, clubs and competition</b>	Whole School- Mr A. Coyle Deputy- Mr M. Thompson
<b>Art and Design</b>	Mrs M. Weedon and Miss L. Butler
<b>Music</b>	Mrs G. Morganti
<b>Liturgical Music and Choir</b>	Mrs B. Hartley
<b>History, Geography</b>	Miss N. Johnson
<b>Design and Technology</b>	Mrs M. Weedon
<b>French</b>	Miss H. Fail
<b>Assessment</b>	Mrs T. Steer
<b>Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCo)</b>	Mrs S. Hughes Mrs M. Cannon (Assistant SENDCo)

<b>Clubs</b>	Mr A. Coyle
<b>Pupil Voice</b>	Miss S. Paling
<b>Educational Visits</b>	Mr A. Coyle
<b>House Teams</b>	Miss A. Lay
<b>Eco- School</b>	Miss T. Martlew

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## Children's Learning- Working together to support your child Partners in Learning afternoons:

The Partners in Learning afternoons are so valuable for you and your child/ren and one that we receive so many positive comments about from parents and children. It gives you time to talk with your child about their learning with their books in their classroom and is a real insight into what inspires your child, and the aspects of learning that are important to them.

So please don't forget to add these dates to your diary!

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

The sessions start at **3.20pm** and end at **4.00pm**

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## Parent Teacher Meetings:

As stated in the Annual Calendar for Parents, the first Parent Teacher Meetings will be on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023**. The first meeting is focused around your child's pastoral progress and well-being i.e. how they have settled into their new class/year group, friendships, how they manage the organisation of the day in terms of their independence etc.. It also gives you the opportunity to ask questions or for any further support or advice.

The second meetings are on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024** and are focused on your child's progress and their achievements, in particular with Reading, Writing and Maths. At these meetings we aim to signpost you to particular advice or support for your child with their learning.

Details of how to make your booking for the Autumn Parent Teacher meetings, will be shared at the beginning of October.

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## Parent talks:

We offer a range of talks for parents which we hope are informative and provide the resources and top tips to support you to work with your child at home. Parent feedback highlights just how much you enjoy meeting the teacher face to face so you can ask questions and look at the resources. Though we do appreciate that for some parents, it is difficult to get the time to attend these meetings. We have scheduled the talks for 2.30pm on a Friday (unless otherwise stated) to help you make arrangements and there are some previously recorded talks from 2021 below, to support you for the term ahead.

The Autumn Term talks: (full details will be sent nearer the date via Schoolcomms)

### September:

**PGL residential Talk for Year 6** parents led by Mrs Steer      Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2.30pm

### October:

**SEND Talk** for all parents led by Mrs Hughes      Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2.15pm

**Reading and Phonics Talk** for Year 1 and 2 parents      Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2.30pm

### November:

**EYFS and Year 1 Early Number Talk**      Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2.30pm

### Previous recordings:

Please see the links to some of the previously recorded talks that you may find helpful as we start a new school year.

### Resilience and Independence Talk recording:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/lpzpMFFoGbehkv268PCY1HTxRTn3hpeNDXGBQNi\\_7uz6ZSGL1DKfMU5QksX9sNWX.ZGiwPsKNQw9bSRpR](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/lpzpMFFoGbehkv268PCY1HTxRTn3hpeNDXGBQNi_7uz6ZSGL1DKfMU5QksX9sNWX.ZGiwPsKNQw9bSRpR)

### KS2 How to support an independent and confident approach to home learning recording:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Vn\\_pcFy8FIhvx\\_Pu5XECAXdcCJyqrzpGybyjUgBipL1wZZCX\\_zqZw mO1rUKoDV1p.c8f0jIvxMMeXJPGA](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Vn_pcFy8FIhvx_Pu5XECAXdcCJyqrzpGybyjUgBipL1wZZCX_zqZw mO1rUKoDV1p.c8f0jIvxMMeXJPGA)

### Restorative Approaches to behaviour recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/zlKICN4q5e5kHDzIkNfRzTbCKDbZHkhCmPg7qK967vCeKCith079zBN-F39ktP5.qmwwxFY-dVZcyQVj>

### Website- Children's Learning page:

As you know the new website is in the process of being created. In the meantime, please do use the website as it is a useful platform for you to find out what your child/ren is learning about in school. You will also find specific ideas and information to support your child across the curriculum by clicking on the links on the left hand side of the page.

<http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk/Curriculum.html>

If you feel you need to speak to your class teacher about your child's academic or pastoral progress, please do contact the teacher via the school office [office@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

The Children's Learning page is organised into 3 key areas:

- Year group pages
- General curriculum information e.g. the Curriculum Statement, Pupil Voice and SEND
- Specific subject information where you will also find Parent Talks

### Year Group Information:

These are your 'go to' pages. In these tabs you will find the details regarding the learning for each year group:

- **Topic Rationale**- this summarises the key learning and the themes that thread through the learning. This gives you an idea of how we are organising the learning for your child in the half term.
- **Year Group Curriculum Overview**- this is a comprehensive summary of what your child will be learning across the whole curriculum, over the year.
- **Maths Expectations:** full details of the End of Year expectations directly from the National Curriculum for each year group.



**Please note, we have now added the detail of the maths learning to the Year Group Overview.** For this half term we have continued to highlight the learning that your child will be covering. After the half term, the un-highlighted document will be available for you to see what your child is expected to learn over the year, according to the National Curriculum.

End of Year Expectations		
Maths		
Year 5		
Summer 1st half term objectives highlighted		
Objectives previously taught are highlighted		
Please note that in line with the progress children make this list is subject to change and the objectives are not necessarily taught in the order listed below.		
<small>The National Curriculum for mathematics aims to ensure that all pupils become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics, so that pupils have conceptual understanding and can recall and apply their knowledge rapidly and accurately to problems. reason mathematically by following a line of enquiry, conjecturing relationships and generalisations, and developing an argument or proof using mathematical language. can solve problems by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication, including breaking down problems into a series of simpler steps and persevering in seeking solutions.</small>		
Learning Objectives	Number and Place Value	Additional information
Read, write, order and compare numbers to at least 1000000 and determine the value of each digit. Interpret negative numbers in context. Count forwards and backwards with positive and negative whole numbers including through zero.	Large numbers of six digits are named in a pattern of three: hundreds of thousands, tens of thousands, ones of thousands, mirroring hundreds, tens and ones. It is helpful to relate large numbers to real-world contexts, for example the number of people that a local sports arena can hold.	<b>Calculation policy page:</b>
Addition and Subtraction		

There are links in this document to the calculation policy and there is additional information to help explain some of the learning objectives. This year we are rethinking what information, regarding the teaching of maths that we share with parents and what support would be most helpful to you.

- **English Expectations:** full details of the objectives in reading, writing and grammar directly from the National Curriculum for each year group. This details what your child is expected to learn over the year, according to the National Curriculum.

The details of what your child will be learning in Reading, Grammar and Writing can now be found directly on the Year Group Overview.

We value your feedback, so please do let us know how you find the website and what information you would find most helpful to support your child. Please email me directly using the email:

[headofschool@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:headofschool@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

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## Extended Schools

### After School Club and Breakfast Club – Mrs E. Chamberlain

Our ever-popular Early Birds and Stay and Play Clubs continue to thrive. We currently have capacity in 'Early Birds' on a **Monday** and **Friday** and 'Stay and Play' on a **Friday**. Please contact Mrs Chamberlain in the school office for further details or, to apply for a place on the waiting list. Telephone number 01483 715190.

May we remind parents please that a half-term's notice is required should you wish to cancel a regular booking. Thank you.

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### HM Government Childcare Choices -Tax Free Childcare- Mrs C. Turner

We are registered with the above scheme to accept payments for childcare for Early Bird's Breakfast Club and Stay and Play After School Club.

If eligible, for every £8 a parent pays into their Childcare account, the government will add an extra £2, up to a maximum of £2,000 per child per year (or £4,000 for disabled children). To find out more about Tax-Free Childcare please visit <http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Please note, when registering with HMRC you will need to provide one piece of information from three options: our Ofsted number 125238; our post code GU22 7AX or our school name.

If you choose to use this method of payment, please notify Mrs Chamberlain in the School Office ([frontdesk@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:frontdesk@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)) of the date, full amount and reference number relating to your payment. This will then enable us to allocate the payment to your account.

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## Governors

### Open Mornings for Prospective Parents Reception Year - September 2024

Our Open Morning for prospective parents wishing to visit the school prior to applying for a place for their child to start in September 2024, will be on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Please note that Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> October session is now fully booked.

The open morning will begin at 9.30am with a talk by Mrs Birch the Executive Headteacher, followed by a tour of the school. The session will finish at 11am. Prompt arrival for the 9.30am start would be very much appreciated. Car parking will be available in the Lower School playground from 9.10am.

The Open Morning is for parents/carers only. Please therefore pre-arrange childcare for young children and babies. Thank you.

To book a place, please complete the form using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/5eVwxrM8AK>

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## Admissions

### Reception Classes in September 2024

#### Mrs A Murray – school admissions

For children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, parents will need to apply for a school place between 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and **15<sup>th</sup> January 2024** (the final closing date for all applications to be received at the school and online to Surrey County Council), if your child is due to start school in a Reception class in September 2024.

Please see the school website [www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk) for details of the school's Admission Policy and procedures 2024-2025, or contact the school office for a paper copy. Two documents with proof of your child's current place of residence (e.g. council tax statement for the current year or utility or bank statement within the last 3 months), proof of your child's date of birth and if appropriate, proof of baptism must be submitted to the school with the completed Supplementary Information Form for 2024-2025. **Originals of any documents must be seen, not emails or copies please.**

**In addition**, parents MUST also apply to Surrey County Council. This can be done online at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions).

For any queries, please contact our Admissions Secretary, Mrs A. Murray either via the school office or at [amurray@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:amurray@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

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## Applying for Secondary School places

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013 you will need to apply to Surrey County Council for a secondary school place by the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023. This can be done online at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions).

**Please do also contact individual secondary schools regarding their admission processes and application details.** Our school office team cannot advise you of individual school's admission details. These will all be available on each school's website.

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## Information from Subject Leaders

### Healthy Schools – Mrs A. O'Donovan: Assistant Headteacher and Inclusion Leader



#### Birthday treats

It is important of course to celebrate children's birthdays, and we always do this in school in our own ways. However, we ask that children do not bring in birthday treats from home to celebrate their birthdays with their class in school. This is not to be party-poopers but because it can put unnecessary pressure on families who may not wish to, or who may be unable to, provide sweets for their child's class (and for parents who do not wish their children to have sweets). In school, we always celebrate birthdays in our weekly celebration collective worship, so your child will still feel very special.

We also ask that birthday invitations are not sent into school, your child can hand these out to their friends in the playground before and after school.

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## Home learning opportunities - Mrs T. Steer: Assistant Headteacher

St. Dunstan's is committed to providing a learning experience that supports all children and that includes providing opportunities for children to continue their learning at home. We believe that home learning enables children to develop the foundations of time management, independent learning skills, and work ethic and allows you to be connected with your child's learning.

### Key Stage 1:

Children will be provided with a reading book, to practise their early reading skills. This will be supplemented with a summary of the learning in class and additional optional home learning ideas linked to the current children's learning, including number and phonics.

### Key Stage 2:

Core skills in reading and number will continue to be developed through regular practice at home. In addition, classroom learning is enhanced through short, focussed home learning tasks that build in duration and challenge to support development of independent learning.

Do visit the homework page on the website for further information <http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk/Homework.htm>

The first piece of home learning will be set during the second full week of term therefore, home learning commenced on Monday 11th September. Future dates are indicated in the annual calendar.

In Key Stage 2 children are provided with books in which to complete work, with the details and other challenges to be found on Google Classroom.

For all year groups, please do ask your child to show you the classroom pages, as they will contain useful information about what home learning is being set and due dates.

This is a valuable learning opportunity for children and we value your support in this partnership to ensure that home learning is completed.

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## Library – Miss N. Maloney: Senior Teacher

This week commencing 11th September, the library will re-open for Years 2-6. There are lots of new resource books available for the children to browse through or choose. Each year group will have library time each week. We have a policy of a book out/ a book in. Once the children return their book they are ready for a new one.

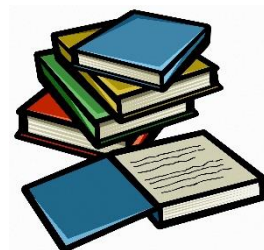
Monday - Year 3

Tuesday - Year 4

Wednesday - Year 5

Thursday - Year 6

Friday - Year 2



The younger children are not forgotten as they have very well stocked class book corners to choose from. If you feel you would like to volunteer to help in the library please give your name to the office.

Happy reading everyone!

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## Medicines in school – Mrs A. O'Donovan: Assistant Headteacher and Inclusion Leader

Please can we remind all parents that wherever possible, medication needs to be given outside of school hours. If it is essential for your child to have any form of prescribed medication during the day (e.g. creams, tablets, liquid form) this must be given in at the school office and a Medication Form must be completed by parents. Medicines will only be administered at break and lunch times.

In order to safeguard all of our pupils, medication should not be in school without the knowledge of school staff and should not be sent in bags with children.

For your information, our school policy on the '[Administration of Medicines and Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions](#)' can be found on the school website.

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**RE – Come and See topics – Mrs S. Turner, R.E. Subject Leader**

Year groups Two to Five will be studying the theme Domestic Church (Family) this term. The subject of RE is taught through a Catholic Primary Religious Programme called “Come and See” which is recommended and supported by the Diocese. Each year group will approach the themes through different topics.

**DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY**

- Year 2: BEGINNINGS** - God is present in every beginning
- Year 3: HOMES** - God’s vision for every family
- Year 4: PEOPLE** - The family of God in Scripture
- Year 5: OURSELVES** - Created in the image and likeness of God.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES**

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God’s love.  
Write underneath it  
**“We show God’s love to one another.”**  
Include those who have died.

Changes to Religious Education for Early Years, Years One and Six.

You may be aware that our RE curriculum has changed for some year groups. This is due to an exciting change for all Catholic schools in England and Wales. Building on the excellent start that our EYFS team made last year, the implementation of the new RE curriculum is being gradually phased in and this year we are busy working on the curriculum for Years One and Six. We are thrilled about the new curriculum and the learning possibilities that will provide our children with the information, understanding, and ability to reflect spiritually, think ethically and theologically, and recognise the challenges of religious commitment in everyday life. Other year groups will be implementing the new curriculum in the following academic year.


There are six areas of learning that are taught in the six half terms in a school year. Each unit reflects the liturgical school year, telling the story from creation through to redemption. They are taught systematically in order for the children to build on prior learning and to fully understand the theological principle of the scriptures being studied.

This term EYFS, Year One and Six are learning about a unit titled: Creation and Covenant. In this unit, the children will encounter the God who creates and calls all people. They will explore revelation of the Christian belief that all that is comes from God, the Creation accounts in Genesis, and scientific explanations of the process of Creation.

<b>EYFS</b>	<b>SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES</b>
<p><b>God made our beautiful world and everything in it, including me.</b> The children will learn the words and actions of the sign of the cross: ‘In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen’. As they learn more about the importance of prayer, they will give thanks for God’s wonderful world</p>	<p>Think about the Creed that we pray in Mass. (For younger children, just the first few lines). Talk about the meaning of the prayer and why we say these words in Mass.</p>
<p><b>Year One</b> The Creation story in Genesis 1:1-4, 24-26 as an ancient, prayerful, poetic reflection on God’s world. <b>God wants us to love and care for the world because the world is God’s gift to us.</b> When we care for the world, it is one of the ways we love and care for each other.</p>	<p>Talk about how your family takes care of the Earth and how this influences what you do and the decisions you make in your daily life. Go out as a family and explore your surroundings. Take time to</p>

<b>Year Six</b>  The <b>Genesis</b> account of Creation and Fall is not a literal scientific description, but <b>expresses beliefs about God, the world, and human beings</b> . Baptism is the first sacrament and it unites Christians with Jesus Christ.	contemplate what in the natural world, fills you with awe and wonder.  At home you could share photographs or experiences you or your family have had visiting places in the world that filled you with awe and wonder.  Explore music and art that has been written or created in praise of creation.
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## Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)				
 <b>Lead DSL:</b> Mrs A. O'Donovan <i>Assistant Headteacher</i>	 <b>Deputy DSL:</b> Mrs J. Birch <i>Executive Headteacher</i>	 <b>Deputy DSL:</b> Mrs G. Morganti <i>Head of School</i>	 <b>Deputy DSL:</b> Mrs S. Hughes <i>SENDCo</i>	 <b>Deputy DSL:</b> Mr A. Coyle <i>Senior Teacher</i>

## Keeping your Children Safe Online – Mrs A. O'Donovan: Designated Safeguarding Lead

Please can we ask for your support from the beginning of the year to keep your children safe when using mobile phones, smart devices, tablets etc.

***Giving a child a device without parental controls and monitoring is like letting your child leave your front door on their own to encounter all of the dangers of the world without any restrictions, preparation or protection!*** I am sure none of you would do that. As a school, we cannot control what devices etc. that your children have access to at home and therefore, we cannot police the behaviour that takes place on those devices outside of school hours.

We would strongly recommend:

**Children in primary school are not given a smart phone.** They simply do not have the life experience to be able to be aware of, understand or manage the risks. Parents can really struggle to decide what the right age is for their child to have a phone. This is mainly due to social pressures from friends and the fact that many children see it as a status symbol.

Many experts say it's about 13, but we think the more practical answer is when they need one: when they're outside your direct supervision, for example, when children are walking home alone. And even at that point, not a smartphone or a phone with any programs that are not age appropriate. Consider giving tiered access to technology, such as starting with a plain call phone, and remind children that privileges and responsibilities go hand in hand. A child's expanding access to personal technology should depend on its appropriate use.

- Children do not have access to any devices in their bedrooms overnight e.g. they get handed to parents at bed time. Have agreed times and places that are "tech-free".
- You have regular open discussions about what your children do online (tips for having conversations <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and->



[carers/have-a-conversation](#)); you know your children's passwords and regularly check their devices.

- Research devices and apps before allowing your child to use them. You may find this link useful: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology>
- Check the PEGI age rating and descriptors on games before buying them for your child and carefully consider whether the content is appropriate for them.
- Wherever possible install parental controls and filters.
- If you haven't already, do sign up for FREE membership to National Online Safety via our school account: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/st-dunstan-s-catholic-primary-school>



Here are some further links that you may find useful:

- <https://static.lgfl.net/LgflNet/downloads/online-safety/posters/LGfL-DigiSafe-Poster-A3-scares.pdf>
- <https://www.childnet.com/resources/supporting-young-people-online/>
- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Listing/?cat=66,67,68,69,70,72&ref=4765#mMain>
- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-live-streaming/>

### **Online Safety advice from Surrey Police**

Surrey Police recently shared a very useful article for parents about social media – it focuses on the most concerning apps: <https://famisafe.wondershare.com/parental-control/the-most-dangerous-apps-for-kids-2020.html>

### **Mobile Free Zone**



Just a little reminder that we ask that anyone dropping off or picking up children at our school keep their mobile phones in their bags. This ensures that the children remain the most important thing at this time and get to see smiley faces rather than a sea of phones at pick up. It enables us to safeguard our children and ensure that no one is taking photos or videos of children or the school site. We thank you for your cooperation with this.

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### **National Online Safety**



For those of you that heard me speak in the hall at the Introduction to Year talks, I mentioned National Online Safety. Please do sign up here for free membership as a parent: <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/st-dunstan-s-catholic-primary-school> Just remember to choose your role as a parent and to put the name of the school as St. Dunstan's Catholic Primary School. The website hosts a wealth of online safety information from courses and videos for parents to their weekly "Wake Up Wednesday" tips for parents regarding the most current apps and websites that children might be using and the pros and cons of allowing your child access to them. Do follow them on X (Twitter) <https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety>, Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety> or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety> too!

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### **SEND– Mrs S. Hughes – Special Needs Co-ordinator and Senior Teacher**

Welcome back everyone. Many of our parents have found this course very useful. Sessions are at Freemantles School, Smarts Heath Road, Mayford, Surrey, GU22 0AN. The cost is £10. To book, visit <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BNLZ>



## Dads & Autism

Presented by: Justin Price, Executive Headteacher, Freemantles School

As a part of our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion drive we have designed this course specifically for Dads and Male-presenting relatives that want to learn, as we want to be inclusive and we have identified that:

- Dads often miss out on other training being offered as Mums are so keen to go.
- Dads often open up less if attending with their partners
- Previous feedback on specific Dads training has been hugely positive
- The Understanding Autism course will cover the same content and will be open to all.

### Autumn 2023:

6-8pm Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2023	Autism awareness and strategies in the home
6-8pm Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Building relationships and communication with your child
6-8pm Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Promoting positive emotional wellbeing and understanding your child's behaviour

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## Liturgy and Worship

### Liturgy, Worship and RE – Mrs A O'Donovan – Assistant Headteacher



*For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.*  
1 John 3:11



The whole school staff started off the year with the celebration of Mass together with Fr. Rob at the Church on the 1<sup>st</sup> September. We focused on how we can be living examples of the Gospel and share our light and salt within our community and in turn inspire the children to do the same and use their gifts for the service of others. It was a beautiful way to start the new academic year together as a team.

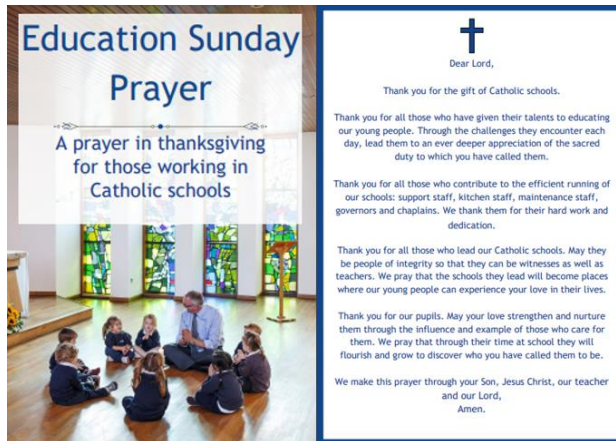
## Catholic Life and Mission

### Our Chaplains – Mrs A. O'Donovan



As part of our Pastoral Team, we are very lucky to have two chaplains, employed by the Parish to support our work in school – who will both be very familiar to you from the Parish and school! Mrs. Mary Smith and Fr Peter share the role of chaplain. They work to support the staff, pupils and you as parents in a pastoral capacity. The chaplains can be contacted via [chaplaincy@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk). They regularly pop into school to informally chat with the

children and staff, join prayer and worship and have a presence within the community. In the summer term, they led the praying of the Rosary during the month of May, Stations of the Cross for Year 3, joined prayer time and collective worship in classes and in our beautiful prayer garden, had drop ins for staff and came to be with the children at lunchtimes. They are also there for you if you were to need someone to talk to.



**Education Sunday**  
**Prayer**

A prayer in thanksgiving  
for those working in  
Catholic schools

Dear Lord,

Thank you for the gift of Catholic schools.

Thank you for all those who have given their talents to educating our young people. Through the challenges they encounter each day, lead them to an ever deeper appreciation of the sacred duty to which you have called them.

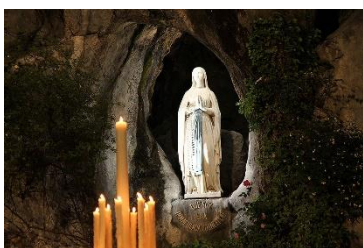
Thank you for all those who contribute to the efficient running of our schools: support staff, kitchen staff, maintenance staff, governors and chaplains. We thank them for their hard work and dedication.

Thank you for all those who lead our Catholic schools. May they be people of integrity so that they can be witnesses as well as teachers. We pray that the schools they lead will become places where our young people can experience your love in their lives.

Thank you for our pupils. May your love strengthen and nurture them through the influence and example of those who care for them. We pray that through their time at school they will flourish and grow to discover who you have called them to be.

We make this prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ, our teacher and our Lord,  
Amen.

## Prayer intentions for Lourdes



Fr Peter and Mary Smith (our chaplains) are going to Lourdes during the last week of September. If you or your children would like them to take a prayer intention to the Lourdes grotto on your behalf, these can either be emailed to [chaplaincy@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk) or dropped off at the office for the attention of the Chaplains by Friday 22nd September.

## Education Sunday

**EDUCATION SUNDAY**

2023: The Armour of Light



Education Sunday was marked this year on the 10th September – just after the new academic year started. It is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales. This year, the 10th September, marked the 175<sup>th</sup> celebration of Education Sunday for the Church in England and Wales. It provides an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks to all involved in making Catholic schools places of enlightenment, as well as to look forward in anticipation of the year ahead. The theme for 2023 was "Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them." taken from Matthew 18:20.

**Rt Rev Marcus Stock**, *Bishop of Leeds and Chair of the Catholic Education Service* gave an address to schools and parishes, part of his message was:

"The great desire of Jesus is to be with us and to invite us to enter into a personal relationship with Him, a relationship of love. When a person knows they are truly loved, a new confidence abounds. St John Bosco, the great patron saint of young people and of education, once said: "Without confidence and love, there can be no true education. If you want to be loved you must love yourselves, and make your children feel that you love them."

The mission of our Catholic schools, colleges and universities is to provide a holistic education which enables the lives of children and young people to flourish and for them to be formed into the men and women that God the Father has created them to be."

His full message can be read here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/education-sunday-2021/message-to-catholic-schools-for-education-sunday/>



We joined the Parish at the 10.30am Mass to celebrate Education Sunday. Some of our pupils in Key Stage 2 took part by taking up our school banner, reading the second reading and bidding prayers, as well as taking up the offertory. We were very proud of all of the children that took on roles, especially Sebastian, Hana and Amaya who wrote the bidding prayers for us. It was lovely to see other children wear their uniforms to Mass as part of the celebration too!

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## Opening Mass



Our opening Mass of the school year will take place on Friday 15th September at 10am at St. Dunstan's Church, led by Year 6. Year groups 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be attending. Years 1 and 2 will have their own Liturgy in school to celebrate the start of the new school year. Families are warmly invited to join the school and parish community at the Church or by using the St. Dunstan's live service link: <http://st-dunstans.org/streaming/>

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## Liturgy News

Liturgies for various events throughout the year will be led by different year groups, and in this way, we all have an opportunity to serve the school family through leading others in worship. We are always keen to explore and share our spirituality together. The children and their class will either be involved in a class collective worship or a special whole school liturgy. Do join us, if at all possible. The children bring such joy in their singing and poignant reflection in their prayers, it is a very special time for the whole community that helps us all to make space and spend time with God. Please refer to the annual calendar for the details of all of our liturgies and Masses.

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## Grandparents' week

Our special Grandparents' Week will be held from 25th – 29th September and is a time when our school will be organising various events and inviting our grandparents to contribute. We would like to celebrate the lives of our grandparents who have often passed down their wisdom and faith to us, and remain such important figures in the lives of the children.



*Dear Grandparents,*

*We were delighted by your support and response last year and it was a real highlight for your grandchildren. This year we would again like to invite grandparents to either join their grandchild's class and read a children's story at the end of the school day (2.45 – 3pm on 25th – 29th September), or record a message or read a story that can be shared with your grandchild's class. Alternatively, you may like to share a prayer or favourite Bible story. If you are recording a message - please could you record yourself and then send the message to the school office for the attention of your grandchild's class teacher by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September? Alternatively, you may like to send the class a card with a message that they can display on their class prayer table. Again, please could be posted to arrive at the school, or sent in via your grandchild, by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. We are really looking forward to hearing from you and thank you in advance for your support. Let your grandchild's class teacher know and they will get in touch with you to organise the details. Thank you so much.*

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# Parish Links – St. Dunstan’s Church



## **Parish Social Media**

Did you know that St Dunstan’s Parish has a Facebook page? Why not follow them to keep up to date with Parish information:

<https://www.facebook.com/stdunstanscatholicwoking>. If you have content that you would like shared on the page, you can email it to [communications@st-dunstans.org](mailto:communications@st-dunstans.org)

The Parish have also set up an Instagram page

- <https://www.instagram.com/stdunstanscatholicwoking/> - and they are specifically trying to connect with younger parishioners (secondary school age). They will be

inviting young people to create faith-sharing content which they can send to [communications@st-dunstans.org](mailto:communications@st-dunstans.org) for moderation. (Parental Permission forms will also need to be completed – available on request).

## **New Parishioners evening**

If you have moved into the Parish since our last New Parishioners' Evening in February then you are warmly invited to come to an informal gathering for New Parishioners on FRIDAY 15th SEPTEMBER at 7.30pm. This will be an opportunity to meet one another and Fr Rob, Fr Nick and Deacon Russell as well as some longer standing parishioners. Children are welcome. You do not need to let us know that you are coming. If you are a recent arrival in the Parish but were unable to attend a previous New Parishioners' Evening then you are also welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you.

## **Save the date – Let us dream!**

**Saturday, September 23rd, 2023, from 10.30am-1.30pm**

John Paul de Quay from [journeyto2030.org](http://journeyto2030.org) will be leading a workshop at St Dunstan’s, Shaftesbury Road, Woking GU22 7DT for the parishes of Woking Deanery to explore how our communities can come together to stop climate change, protect nature and support people. Agenda: Mass at 10.00 am followed by tea/coffee & light refreshments. Talk and activities 11-1pm. Families are welcome. For enquiries contact: [jp@theecg.org](mailto:jp@theecg.org) or to find out more information or register, visit [Eventbrite https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/let-us-dream-journey-to-2030-activity-workshop-tickets-667540219767](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/let-us-dream-journey-to-2030-activity-workshop-tickets-667540219767).

## **Youth Mental Health First Aid**

4 evenings on-line – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> , Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 6pm – 9.30pm

This Youth Mental Health First Aid course is for everyone who works with, lives with or supports young people aged 8-18. It will teach you the skills and confidence to spot the signs of mental health issues in a young person, offer first aid and guide them towards the support they need. In doing so, you can speed up a young person’s recovery and stop a mental health issue from getting worse. Our course won’t teach you to be a therapist, but we will teach you to listen, reassure and respond, even in a crisis - and even potentially stop a crisis from happening. But more than that, we aim to give you the information and skills to look after your own mental health so that you can set an example for young people. By giving you the tools to have these conversations, we hope to empower you to create a mentally healthy, supportive environment in your family, school, peer group or community, where every young person has access to support if they need it. The course is accredited by MHFA England and you will receive a certificate of attendance. To discuss your engagement with this course before booking contact Deacon Simon South, Diocesan Advisor E: [simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk)

## **Altar Server Mass – Saturday 23 September at Arundel Cathedral**

Fr Aaron Spinelli, Diocesan Director for the Guild of St Stephen, invites diocesan altar servers to a special Mass at Arundel Cathedral on Saturday 23 September at 12 noon, led by Bishop Richard. The Mass is for all those who have served, all those who are serving, and anybody who would like to serve - all are very welcome. Fr Aaron requests attendees bring a cassock/cotta or an alb (if possible), and a packed lunch. There is no need to register, though attendees are asked to email [aaron.spinelli@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aaron.spinelli@abdiocese.org.uk) to confirm numbers. Please note that children need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian/carer and that Fr Aaron/the Cathedral cannot take responsibility for unaccompanied minors.

### **A Day of Reflection for Grandparents**

Tuesday 26 September 2023 11am-3.30pm, St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley  
Life experience comes at the price of the hard knocks and joyful moments and Fr Stephen Ortiger will help us to explore those and how we can see the hand of God in our lives. Our Youth Adviser, Lizzie Wakeling, will offer some helpful hints and tips into communicating with young people and tuning into what they may find helpful as they navigate their way in life. If you are interested contact Katherine Bergin: Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk.

### **Marriage Anniversaries Mass**

Saturday 30 September 2023 11.30am-2pm at Our Lady of Ransom, Eastbourne  
Bishop Richard will celebrate Mass at 11.30 am followed by a drinks reception. Please join us for a wonderful opportunity to renew your wedding vows and revel in the joy that marriage can bring. Family and friends are very welcome. For more information, contact the Marriage and Family Life Adviser, Katherine Bergin Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk.

### **St Philip Howard Mass at Arundel Cathedral - 22 October at 3pm**

People across our Diocese are invited to join the annual St Philip Howard Mass at Arundel Cathedral followed by refreshments at the Cathedral Centre. There will be an opportunity to view materials from the recent Arundel Museum exhibition 'Arundel Cathedral 1873 - 2023'. All are welcome, booking is not required.

### **Signing of Secondary School supplementary information forms**

The Priests will be available to sign SJB Admission Forms on Friday 29th September and Friday October 6th, 6.00pm - 8.00pm. There is no need to make an appointment, please just come to the church.

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## **Parent to Parent – School Annual Calendar**

Our very grateful thanks to Mrs Dharshi Rajan, a current parent, who has very kindly put together the following useful links to sections of the Annual Calendar for ease of reference. **Please note: any changes that are recorded in following monthly school newsletters will not be reflected in these google calendars but on the school Annual Calendar only.**

#### **LINKS:**

##### **Whole School:**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/stdunstansschoolcalendars%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>

##### **Lower School**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/184qbuv9n353k78an94a27vsnk%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

##### **KS2**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/oc7om8blol3d7182kiolo33vbc%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

##### **Reception**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/gh6s14tl5veu49eo88dnkurnrs%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

##### **Year 1**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/2be0fp530mcvkv3sn8bbifgpgo%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>



Year 2

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/hpmk12qrti0nuf5d3n64rkqsl8%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

Year 3

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/4f758ub9id3011ccenr3ga3avs%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

Year 4

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/56fu7ulg6cgj1jnthdpar72rg4%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

Year 5

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/c6p5dbdb5qi9ocmofon78knpfs%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

Year 6

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/obnlpa72s7ko955aoc1psrn4c%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

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## Safeguarding

### Gates at home time

At the end of the day, **all external gates are locked by 3.35pm**. The reason for this is because we have after school clubs running after school and we need to ensure the children are safe and the site is as secure as it would be when the school is in normal session.


The Kitchen Gate will re-open at 4.15pm when clubs finish. Parents who need to collect their child early from 'Stay and Play' After School Club should go to the school office and staff will phone through to ASC so that your child can meet you in the main reception. Children at After School Club play in the Lower School playground and this area remains locked.

Parents arriving after 4.15pm will be able to come in via Kitchen Gate as usual.

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## School Office

 **For your information: [School Photographs –Monday 02<sup>nd</sup> and Monday 09<sup>th</sup> October 2022](#)**

Our School Photographer will be in school on **Monday 02<sup>nd</sup> of October** to take photos of individual pupils and **09<sup>th</sup> of October**, for sibling groups (this applies only to siblings currently attending St Dunstan's School). Please do ensure that your child is dressed in full, smart winter uniform and has their blazer in school as usual that day. Thank you!

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Please be advised of whom to contact in the office via email:

**Mrs A. Murray** - [amurray@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:amurray@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

- PA to the Executive Headteacher
- School Admissions
- Clerk to the Governors

**Mrs E. Chamberlain** - [frontdesk@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:frontdesk@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

- Extended Schools
- Sporting Fixtures

**Mrs A. Madden** - [info@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

- Medical
- Swimming (Summer Term)

**Mrs M. O’Riordan** - [office@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

- Attendance, absences/medical appointments and change to end of day collection of pupils
- School Lunches
- Cool Milk
- School photographs
- Teacher and External Led Clubs

**Mrs N Hammond** - [trips@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:trips@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

- School trips and visits

**Mrs R. Turner** - [office2@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office2@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)

- FoSD Liaison
- Governors' Maintenance Fund
- Parent / Teacher meetings

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## Extended Schools

### After School Club and Breakfast Club

Our ever-popular Early Birds and Stay and Play Clubs continue to thrive. We currently have capacity in 'Early Birds' on a **Monday** and **Friday** and 'Stay and Play' on a **Friday**. Please contact Mrs Chamberlain in the school office for further details or, to apply for a place on the waiting list. Telephone number 01483 715190.

May we remind parents please that a half-term's notice is required should you wish to cancel a regular booking. Thank you.

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## HM Government Childcare Choices -Tax Free Childcare- Mrs C. Turner

We are registered with the above scheme to accept payments for childcare for Early Bird's Breakfast Club and Stay and Play After School Club.

If eligible, for every £8 a parent pays into their Childcare account, the government will add an extra £2, up to a maximum of £2,000 per child per year (or £4,000 for disabled children). To find out more about Tax-Free Childcare please visit <http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Please note, when registering with HMRC you will need to provide one piece of information from three options: our Ofsted number 125238; our post code GU22 7AX or our school name.

If you choose to use this method of payment, please notify Mrs Chamberlain in the School Office ([frontdesk@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:frontdesk@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)) of the date, full amount and reference number relating to your payment. This will then enable us to allocate the payment to your account.

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## Accepting card payments for sundry items

We will shortly be able to accept card payments at the school office for sundry items eg water bottles, reading wallets, school caps etc.



## Reporting your child's absence (illness): please continue to use the Microsoft form

With 630 children in the school, and many emails and phone calls coming in to the school office in the morning, it was taking our admin team some considerable time to record all absences on that day and ascertain the reasons for the absence. For safeguarding reasons it is very important that we know who is absent and who is at school as soon after 8.55am as possible. We also need to be sure *why* a

child is absent so that we can accurately record this on each child's attendance register and notify the UK Health Security Agency and any vulnerable staff/pupils of any symptoms or infections of concern. The Inclusions Officer from Surrey County Council, visits the school once a term and looks at the school's attendance information. If a child's absence is for more than three days, we may also need to receive medical evidence for the extended absence from school.

To make reporting your child's absence easier for parents, and to make collating absences more efficient and comprehensive for our admin team, we use a specific Microsoft Form for parents to record their child's absence from school due to illness or other medical reasons. Any other absence (non-illness/medical) should continue to be applied for as currently.

The link to the absence form is below, but it can also be found on the Attendance page of our school website at all times.

<https://forms.office.com/e/FtSwBLfb1b>

We ask all parents to use the form as the main way to report their child's absence. This form will be saved directly onto your child's attendance register as written evidence of the reason for your child's absence from school. Please complete a new form for every day your child is absent.

Thank you for your support to ensure the safety and welfare of our children is always given the highest priority.

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## Online payments

If you have not yet registered for online payments and would like to do so, please contact the school office ([office@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk)). You will be issued with a unique Pupil Link Code which will enable you to set up your account via [www.scopay.com/stdunstansprimary](http://www.scopay.com/stdunstansprimary)



### **\*\*IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR NEW PARENTS \*\***

#### **Schoolcomms**

All new parents have now been sent an invitation to register with Schoolcomms and to download the School Gateway App. If you encounter any difficulties, please do contact the school office.

Guidance on how to register: Please download the School Gateway App and enter the same email and mobile number currently held by the school. You will then receive a pin via a text message. The pin will allow you to login and activate the App.

*NB It has come to our attention that not all parents are receiving text messages sent out via the School Gateway App. This applies to registered users of the App. This issue seems to arise if a parent changes their mobile phone/device. The School Gateway App does not appear to automatically transfer across to a new phone/device.*

*If you find this is an issue after changing devices, please can we ask you to download the School Gateway App again from the App Store.*

*Only text messages are sent via the School Gateway App. All other communications are sent on email via Schoolcomms.*

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## Free School Meals – Years 3 - 6 - are you eligible?

**Please contact the school office for details of eligibility.** You can email [office@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk) Application forms can be collected from the school office for completion and return.

Mrs C. Turner, our school Bursar, is always very happy to check your eligibility for you if you are unsure. You can contact Mrs Turner in confidence by email on: [admin@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk) or by phone: 01483 715190.

Thank you.

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## Updating your contact details?

Please remember to let the school office know in writing if you have changed your address or telephone numbers during the school holidays. **This is vital so that we can contact you in an emergency.** Please do not update your contact details via Schoolcomms as this inbox is not monitored.



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## Phoning home for forgotten items

A reminder, please, that in order to develop children's independence, the school office do not routinely phone home to ask parents for forgotten school items. Please remind children to check they have got everything they need each day.

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## Driving to School



### Direction : Unofficial one-way system around Onslow Crescent

There has been a voluntary One-Way system for school traffic in place for many years in Onslow Crescent. This means that between 8.20am – 9.00am and 2.45pm - 3.45pm all cars associated with the school need to drive in ONE DIRECTION coming in at the Woking Station end of Onslow Crescent and driving out of the Post Box end of Onslow Crescent.

However convenient it may be for you to drive in the Post Box end, please be aware that you will be creating gridlock and a dangerous environment for the children and other pedestrians. It is never acceptable to mount the pavement in your car, *especially* when there are children walking to and from school.

Please ensure that anyone else dropping or collecting your child is aware of this one way system in order to keep the traffic flowing. Thank you.

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## Twitter



The school Twitter page is:

**@st\_dunstans\_**

We also currently have the following Twitter pages-

EYFS: **@ReceptionStD**

Years 1 & 2: **@Yr2Dunstans**

Year 3 & 4: **@ Yr4Dunstans**

PE: **@st\_dunstans\_pe**

Following parent feedback, the year group pages for EYFS, Years 1 & 2, Key Stage 2 are locked so that those who wish to follow them have to request to do so.

If we recognise you as a parent, we will automatically authorise you to follow the page, *but if we don't recognise your twitter name*, we won't be able to allow you to join. For safeguarding purposes, please ensure your Twitter name reflects your own name so that you are recognisable. Thank you.

The main school Twitter page and the PE page have open access. We don't authorise advertising via our school Twitter with people using business names unless there was a specific reason. Thank you.

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## Uniform: Mrs J. Birch

### School Coat

Uniform is a great leveller. All children are equal at school. As autumn draws near, please ensure your child has a proper school coat ready to wear which should be **plain black or navy** available from a range of suppliers. **Ideally this needs to be waterproof.**



Our coat of preference is the navy blue school coat (available from a range of suppliers such as Valentinos, M&S and John Lewis) which has a waterproof exterior and a fleecy inside. It is also fairly lightweight and suitable for children to play in at playtime.

As always, any family in financial hardship should contact Mrs O'Donovan or Mrs Birch directly.

The maroon, reversible, showerproof school sports jacket with fleece inside from Valentinos or our pre-loved uniform sale is also acceptable as this is already part of the school uniform. However, no other maroon coat. We encourage the wearing of high-visibility fluorescent waistcoats when walking to school.

We aim to get the children out to play at lunchtime if at all possible, as getting the children out to run about in the fresh air for even a short time helps them to release energy and be ready for their learning in the afternoon. Therefore, the children go out if it is drizzling - but ONLY if they have a rain coat or similar with hood to keep them dry.

We appreciate it is not routinely cold enough yet for children to wear their winter coats, but if we could ask please that everyone ensures their child has a navy or black raincoat/pac-a-mac/cagoule or similar that can be worn or brought to school every day now for the children to wear out at playtimes when it is wet. Ideally it should be something that can be folded and packed in school bags easily if not needed on the way to school. Something big enough to go over your child's uniform including blazer.

Please consider donating good quality school coats and raincoats that no longer fit to the swap shop.

Many thanks for your support.



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## Dates for your Diary –



**Term Dates and Inset Days (School closure days for staff training) for the academic year 2023-2024 are available to view on our school website:**

[http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk/Holiday\\_dates\\_2023-2024.pdf](http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk/Holiday_dates_2023-2024.pdf)

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## Friends of St. Dunstan's (FoSD) Section of the School Newsletter

*The FoSD Committee*

*Dear Parents, Carers, and Friends of St. Dunstan's.*

### *Pre loved school uniform*

*We are urgently looking for a parent volunteer to help us with our Pre Loved school uniform. This would entail helping to sort through the donations received at the school office and to help at the uniform sales at the end of the school day. Please contact the school office on 01483 715190 if you are interested in helping or to find out further details. Thank you.*

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