

ST. HELEN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL ABBOTSHAM, BIDEFORD, DEVON, EX39 SAP TEL: 01237 475276 EMAIL: <u>sthelens.sch@alumnismat.</u> HEADTEACHER: MRS C. S. LEWIS BSC (HONS) / PGCE / QTS





'LET US CONSIDER HOW WE MAY SPUR ONE ANOTHER ON TOWARD LOVE AND GOOD DEEDS.' HEBREWS 10:24

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back! I hope that you've had a great summer holiday and had a chance to take a break after the rather strange summer term! I am absolutely delighted to have the opportunity to teach your children again this year. It's hard to believe that it's been nearly six months since they had to put up with me in the classroom.

After being away from school for so long, it's completely understandable that some children might be feeling nervous about returning. With this in mind, please know that my main focus will be making sure that they feel safe and happy in the classroom. Alongside maths, reading and writing sessions, we've tailored the curriculum to help the children transition back into our school routines.

I hope that you'll have already had a chance to read the information about uniforms, drop-off and pick-up times, lunches, wrap around care, etc. So rather than repeating all of that I just wanted to remind you that we will be **starting at 8:50am and 3:30pm** and explain a few things that will be a little different for the children.

In the classroom, they will be sitting at **desks all facing forwards** and I've tried to ensure they are with people you learn well with. They will also have their own tray with and stationery with their name on, and they won't be able to share these.

We will be **washing our hands A LOT**, just like back in March before we all went into lockdown and no doubt like you have been at home.

Children will need to wear **school uniform everyday**, adapted for Daily Physical Activity, except for **Fridays** when we will have PE and will need to wear your PE kit for the day. We are also lucky enough to have coaches from the Atlantic Racquet Centre to come and lead some tennis sessions for this half term.

PLEASE only send in a small bag (big enough for their lunchbox, drink and a reading book) which will be kept under their desk.































Thank you so much for embracing Seesaw during lockdown. I realise that you probably enjoyed a break from it this August, but to minimise materials coming in and out of school, we are going to embrace the programme more this year. We will no longer use reading diaries and home learning books. All of this information will be recorded and shared (both ways) using Seesaw.

We will have to be a bit more careful about how we use the library to avoid crossing with other bubbles so **we will only be changing AR books when we can** (at least once a week). Of course, if your child is reading a book from home, you can always check it is the right level using www.arbookfind.com and do tests on them in the classroom.

I'll stop bombarding you with information now. I hope the above has been useful. If you have any questions or if I've missed anything here, please don't hesitate to get hold of me on Seesaw and I'll reply as soon as I can.

Thanks	for your	continued	support.
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Best wishes,

Mr Kent