



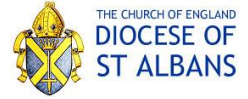
Tonwell St Mary's CE (VC) Primary School

Ware Road, Tonwell, Herts, SG12 0HN

Tel: 01920 462894

E-mail: admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Bridgman



'Knowing each child, growing each child, in God's love'

Friday 13th November

Christian Value: LOVE

Dear Parents,

Thankfully, life in school during the second national lockdown remains much the same with the children busy learning and enjoying maintaining their social interactions with friends. We are doing our best to keep school as 'normal' as possible and continue with our usual planned events, albeit virtual or outdoors.

Last week, years 1-6 really enjoyed trying archery and orienteering sessions run by the School Sports Partnership. It was fantastic to see them working as a team in orienteering and their resilience in archery. The staff delivering each session commented on our children's respectful manners and the great support they showed to one another when trying to improve their shots.

Our church volunteers are unable to come into school at the moment but have been able to work creatively to film their 'Open the Book' worship time for the children to enjoy. Thank you to Bob Kelly and his team for making this possible.

We welcomed BMX expert, Mike Mullen, back into school earlier in the week. Everyone was wowed by his amazing BMX tricks but also fascinated by learning about how many failures he has had in his career before becoming a world champion. Mike's messages to the children about resilience, not giving up and 'Flearning' (learning from failures) fit in perfectly with our Growth Mindset approach. The visit was inspirational to all.

All classes stopped for the two minutes' silence on Wednesday to mark Remembrance Day.

Well done to our school council for organising our non-uniform day for Children in Need. Thank you for all of your donations.



Please remember that although we cannot meet with you face-to-face, staff are here to support you. Please phone or email us if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Mrs Bridgman

Herts Help

We do know that life at home may be a little more challenging in these difficult times so please do not hesitate to get in contact if you need any support. The local authority has set up a central website with links to community groups and services, for example access to food and other essentials and care for elderly relatives.

www.hertshelp.net

info@hertshelp.net

0300 123 4044



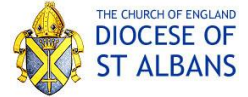
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Safeguarding

It is important that you contact us as soon as possible if your child develops COVID symptoms or has a positive test. In school hours, please phone the school office. Out of school hours, please email both head@tonwell.herts.sch.uk and admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk so that we can coordinate any necessary measures and communication.

Parent Forum

2nd Lockdown

The guidance for schools during the second national lockdown is not expected to significantly impact our school. Children can attend full time as normal and wraparound care remains open.

Christmas is not cancelled!

We will aim to keep Christmas as special as possible in school. Children will have Christmas dinner, Christmas jumper day, an in school pantomime experience and they will still prepare their Christmas service to share with you. Ash and Oak classes will be sending home narrated Powerpoints of their prayers and songs. Pine class will be sharing a short nativity play. More details coming soon.

Reading

It is always important to read with your child and listen to them read regularly. We expect children to read at home 5 times per week and for this to be recorded in their reading records or home learning diaries. This could be listening to you reading them a story or reading aloud to you.

Catch up Premium

An overview of the school's catch up premium plan was shared. The school has been allocated £1820 of government funding. This will be used to fund training in 'Back on Track' teaching materials across the school and additional teacher support for maths and English one day per week in Pine and Oak classes. There is also an after school maths group for some KS2 children.

Support for more-able children

We have more-able pupils in year groups across the school. These children are being supported through our catch up funding groups. We are also planning extension and enrichment activities for these children later in the year, including Shakespeare and STEM workshops.

Zones of Regulation

We have introduced a resource across the school called the Zones of Regulation. It helps children to recognise their different feelings and learn about strategies to regulate their emotions. We hope it will be a good resource for supporting children's mental wellbeing. We are using 'Inside Out' characters to help children recognise different feelings.

What Zone Are You In?			
Blue	Green	Yellow	Red
			
Sick Sad Tired Bored Moving Slowly	Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	Mad/Angry Mean Yelling/Hitting Disgusted Out of Control



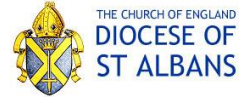
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Key Dates for autumn term:

Please note that these may be subject to change and some activities will be risk assessed nearer the time to check they can still go ahead.

Monday 16 th November	Odd Socks Day (please wear odd socks to school to celebrate difference) organised by school council
WB 16 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Wednesday 25 th November	Years 1-2 Blue Cross Animal Talk
Wednesday 25 th November	Years 3-6 virtual faith tour with a focus on Judaism and the synagogue
Friday 27 th November	Raffle by the Tonwell Parent Teacher Association (Friends of Tonwell)
Friday 27 th Nov & 4 th Dec	Specialist music teacher working with Y1-6
Monday 30 th November	INSET DAY
Wednesday 2 nd December	Fire Safety Talk Pine Class, Hertfordshire Fire Service
Friday 4 th December	Nasal Flu vaccination Reception to Year 6
Tuesday 15 th December	Pantomime experience in school
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
Friday 18 th December	1.15pm End of Term (Please note that pick up time for Reception-Y3 will be 1.10pm)