



# The Staverton Bell

8th January 2021



## Welcome Back!

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you back to Staverton Primary School in 2021. However, I'm sure you'll agree that it's not been the easiest return. It is frustrating that we can't open the school to all pupils at the moment and it's really important that for those at home to know that you still belong to our school family. This makes opening up our doors in other ways even more important, whether it be phone, email, internet or just being on the playground. We will be doing our utmost to make sure you still feel connected with the school.

### School contact details:

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BA14 6NZ

**Email:**  
amin@staverton.wilts.sch.uk

**Tel.** 01225 782388



@stavertonschool

**Facebook:** Staverton  
Church of England Primary School

**"No walls, no ceiling, no boundaries"** has been our motto this term. By that, we mean:

1. Good communication between parents, children and staff is paramount.
2. Giving children a high quality education whether they are at home or at school.
3. Freedom for staff and children to explore, experiment and try new things.

With these three things in place, we will make this term a successful one for all. I wish you all the very best with managing work patterns, home learning routines and all the other challenges that lockdown brings. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything we can do to help.

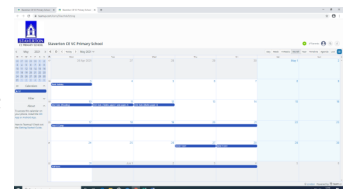
I have been overwhelmed by the positive welcome I have received on my first week here. I intend to be on the school gates at the beginning and end of most school days so please do come and say hello and introduce yourselves. I look forward to the day when this will be much easier.

Thank you for your constant support and encouragement.

Mr Powe  
Head Teacher

## Our new online calendar

In our aim to make communication between parents and the school easier, we have launched a new online calendar. Simply type this link into your internet browser and save it as a 'bookmark':



<https://teamup.com/ksmy58authdu9ztsng>

This calendar contains all the key dates, such as holidays, INSET days, parents evenings and whole school events, between now and January 2022. The calendar also works as an app on your phone, making access to the calendar fairly straightforward.

Please note that there are a number of provisional dates on here that haven't been confirmed and dates will certainly be added and changed as the year goes on. I invite you to try the calendar out and get in touch if there is anything that you need help with.



## Google classroom

We have been talking non-stop about Google Classroom this week and are excited by what it will mean for the children. Going forward, home learning will be found on your child's google classroom page. Very soon, you will be receiving instructions for how to log in to your child's google classroom and your own personal log ins. There are bound to be issues as we begin to get this going so thank you for your patience. Home learning will also be on the website until everyone has made the transition. I hope that you find it a more useful and interactive way with engaging in school. Please get in touch if you have any questions or issues with this.

## Celebrating success

We always love to hear about pupils' achievements both in and out of school. Please do email in with any successes and triumphs-we can celebrate them with you here!

This week, we have a published author in our midst! Sienna Cafferky-Black, a former pupil and daughter of Mrs Cafferkey, has found her work published in an anthology! As you can imagine, we are immensely proud of her achievement but we will let her words speak for themselves:

### MISSING

“ Every step, the bullet-like rain fell faster and stronger. The stars that beamed brightly, soon were dim and at one with the inevitable hum of silence. I felt alone, cold and hungry. I often found myself fantasising about a family, well a good one at least. When I would come home from school, my mother's warm, comforting arms would embrace me while her soft, soothing voice would tell me, “Everything is okay.” But no...there was no home., no one had begun to look for me. So I thought, I might just stay missing. It was better that way...”

**Sienna Cafferkey-Black (11)**

Such a powerful and emotive story expressed in only a handful of words. Well done Sienna!

## COVID restrictions

Thank you to everyone who is helping us to keep the school safe and socially-distanced, especially during pick-up and drop off times. Please note that although we cannot enforce the wearing of face masks by parents, we do actively encourage it. Also, thank you for helping by following the one way system. Although inconvenient, it does help things run smoothly. Staff will be on the doors at the beginning and end of the day for you to be able to talk to from a distance. The school regularly reviews its risk assessment and procedures in light of ever-changing developments. Thank you for your support with this.

## Key worker families

As you know, we have a number of pupils who are attending school because their parent/parents are critical key workers. We do ask that if this applies to you that you only send them into school if they are unable to be cared for at home. Thank you to those parents who have already been in touch to say that they can reduce the number of days when their child attends school. We also have families who are attending school for other reasons, such as those with EHCPs and the expectations with these pupils is that they are in as much as possible. We will be in constant communication with you all regarding this.

The local authority and DFE continue to issue guidance as the days roll on. As I said before, if expectations around class sizes and other restrictions change, then we will need to start reviewing the number of school places that we are available to offer to key worker families.

We now have a ranking system for offering places, which I summarise below:

1. **Priority group 1 NHS workers**
2. **Priority group 2 Wider health and social care, educational professionals and security**
3. **Priority group 3 other groups as identified**
  - **Key public services, Local and national government. Food and other necessary goods, Transport, Utilities, communication and financial services**

## PE

Each class will have an opportunity for PE, unfortunately we have not had an opportunity to put this in place for next week but we will keep you informed on parentmail. Like last term the children will be able to come to school in their pe kits on the days they have their lessons.

## Free School Meals

We will be providing support for Free School Meals families during this lockdown. We are currently looking into vouchers and we will be in touch as soon as possible. If your circumstances have changed in any way then please contact the school office on [admin@staverton.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@staverton.wilts.sch.uk)

**Please see the link on the school website and the online calendar for any additional dates/changes to dates**

## Pause for thought....

In this tempestuous year, we can find words of comfort in scripture. Allow me to share with you a famous blessing, with words that had been spoken and shared with communities for thousands of years:

**“May The Lord Bless you and keep you:  
The Lord make his face shine upon you,  
And be Gracious to you:  
My The Lord turn his face toward you,  
And give you peace.”**

**NUMBERS 6 V24-36**

