



Singleton Church of England Primary School

Newsletter September 2020

"Passion for LearningPassion for life"

Christian Value – Respect

Luke 6:31 "And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them."

Welcome back!

I hope that you all had a lovely summer despite these very different times that we are living in. School looks very different and I am sure that it will take a little bit of time to adjust to our 'new norm'. The staff have done a wonderful job over the summer holidays trying to make the classrooms look at child friendly and enticing as possible. It is **really important** that we all work together over the coming weeks and months to adapt to our new structures and routines and adhere to the protocols that have been put in place. At this stage these protocols are in line with GOV.UK guidance and are non-negotiable as the 'R' rate continues to rise.

The office is still running as a virtual office and no parents are allowed in the building at this stage. Contact remains the same as it has since March, email or phone. Please bear with us if the answer phone is on, as **all staff** at the moment including the office staff are having to cover Kids Club provision as we don't have enough Kids Club Staff to provide this service. This means that at times the office is unmanned. Can we just remind that you **must** socially distance during drop off and collection and you must be prompt! Teachers will be available on the doors – for a brief passing over of information – but not for a long conversation as the staggered drop off system requires prompt drop off and collections. Please note you **must not** wait on the playground if you are dropping / collecting siblings until their time slot. Please follow the guidance we have sent out.



September

Happy birthday to the following children

2nd Charlie Piggott

3rd Emma Taylor, Ava Hacking

10th Emelia Rogers,

12th Jack Dobson

20th Oliver Roskell,

21st Poppy Hardcastle

22nd Scott Thompson

24th Luca Drury

25th Theo Taala

29th George Bebbington



The overall attendance for July was N/A

(Due to COVID-19)

For more information about attendance and holidays in term time, please check out the school website.

If you need support with attendance and punctuality please contact Mrs Lilley, our Family Learning Mentor



Singleton Church of England Primary School

School Office



Payments to School

Please note all clubs and dinners must be paid for **in advance**.

Dinner Money

You can pay for School dinners on a weekly or half-termly basis. If you choose to pay weekly, you will need to pay a week **in advance**. Weekly dinner money will be collected on a Friday. Please post all money into the external post box situated on the wall outside the office in a labelled envelope.

Dinner money for next term = £77

(Please make cheques payable to Lancashire County Council).

If you decide that, you no longer want your child to have a school lunch you must give the office a **week** notice as all food is ordered a week in advance.



Polite request

Currently hours of time are lost each week with parents and carers phoning/emailing to ask questions about times and dates of events. We regularly update the website and Facebook and we send out a monthly newsletter (and place one on the website) and where possible a reminder text. It is your responsibility to read the information given and check dates and times. We recognise that on occasion's times and dates have to be changed—but the office always updates the latest newsletter and sends out text reminders if this happens. Please check your emails / texts and the website first before phoning the office. Please note at busy times, we may not be able to send out a reminder text

Absence

If your child is absent, from school please inform the office by 9.20am and leave a message on the answerphone.

Please note we are still running a virtual office

If you need to contact school for any reason then the office opening hours are as follows:-

Monday 8.00 am - 4.15pm

Tuesday 8.00 am - 4.15 pm

Wednesday 8.00 am - 4.15 pm

Thursday 8.00 am - 4.15 pm

Friday 8.00 am - 4.15 pm

Tel (01253) 882226

Please note that the office is closed for lunch between

12:00 and 1:00pm

The phone will not be answered at this time



Information

- **Kids Club** has an **online booking system** – please **do not** phone the office and ask to be booked on as Kids Club is separate to school and Mrs Reeves **cannot book** children on the new system.
- Please contact Miss Manning for all Kids Cub queries. Via phone between 1:45pm – 2:45pm or via email

Terrianne.manning@singleton.lancs.sch.uk

News / Updates

- **COVID – 19** – update - we will be running Kids Club as a reduced service until further notice.
- A new Charging system is now in place. We are hoping that this will simplify booking and ensure that we maximise the capacity of the club at busy times. (See separate letter for full details)
- We now have a new VMC in place after Mrs Mary Watt and Mrs Rachel Smith left in May after years of dedicated service to the club. If any parents are interested in becoming a VMC member please email Terrianne Manning for details. The VMC would welcome additional members at this time. The VMC essentially are a group of volunteers that run the Kids Club – without them there would be no wrap around provision. Please if you feel that you are able to help or support in any way contact us for more information.



Singleton Church of England Primary School

Extra-Curricular Clubs



Information about PE and extracurricular activities

- Please make sure that your child has additional kit for any after school activity, as P.E Kit **must not** be worn.
- It is important that for sports such as football and hockey your children have the correct kit as these clubs will always take place outdoors— Please ask Mr Goostry if you are unsure what your child needs.
- Please pick up your child promptly at **4.15pm after clubs**. Children will be placed in Kids Club if you are late and you will be charged accordingly.

Please make sure that you pay for clubs in advance. If this does not happen then your child will not be booked on the course

COVID update

At this stage we are not running any clubs. This decision will be kept under constant review and we will keep you updated.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS SEPTEMBER 2020

Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	



Curriculum

The class teachers will be sending out curriculum letters to explain in more detail how this first half term will run. We have worked very hard over the summer planning how we will ensure all our children will receive a high quality education within the constraints that COVID presents. As always our aim to teach an ambitious and broad curriculum, but we will make use of the existing flexibilities as outlined by GOV.UK to ensure that we create time to cover the most important missed content. Our aim as per the guidance is to return to our normal curriculum in all subjects by summer 2021. Over the coming weeks we will assess and review the children so that teaching time can be prioritised to address any gaps in pupil knowledge. We will prioritise Maths, English, Science PHSE and RE in the first instance, although we intend to also encompass art and music within the curriculum. At this stage PE will be addressed during breaks / lunch – we have evaluated the PE curriculum and picked out the elements that we can safely deliver. The New Hall is currently a classroom so all PE will take place outside. Children must wear trainers to school so that they can participate in the daily exercise.



FOSS

At this time there are no planned FOSS events due to the COVID restrictions. However, more than ever we need to raise funds to buy additional resources for our children.

We have a fantastic Chair of FOSS, Mrs Yates who is very creative and always has wonderful fund raising ideas. This year though we do need to think outside of the box and come up with fun ways in which we can raise money without having gatherings. If you feel that you can help or if you have any good ideas, then please get in touch via email: clare_yates@hotmail.co.uk

We really need to buy some new outdoor resources (that can be easily sanitised and made safe) for our infants as we are trying to promote learning outdoors as much as possible. In our juniors there are some computing resources that are desperately needed such as data loggers as we can't share resources as readily now.

Last year FOSS bought a new science scheme for our children, they also helped buy some much needed computing equipment including I pads, laptop tables and they also supported us buy giving us funds to purchase teaching and learning resources to help with catch up programmes for the children this term.

Anyone can join FOSS and even if you cannot make every meeting or event they really do welcome any support no matter how small.

If you are interested in joining please let Mrs Yates know and she will ensure that you get all the up to date information.

Junior Leadership Team

It is the time of year when we vote in new members to our Junior Leadership team. The Y5 and Y6 pupils are busy writing their speeches.

The Junior Leadership team members have a vital and special role in making sure that all the children in our school are listened to. They have a voice about how they want our school to be and their ideas are carefully considered. Each year they get their own version of the School Improvement Plan and they work with the staff and governors supporting school improvement.



In our school, we have:-

Literacy, Numeracy and STEM leaders, Christian Leaders, pastoral leaders, growth mindset leaders. As well as these, we have Health, Safety and Safeguarding leaders and digital leaders.

These children play a very proactive role in school, they support with things such as induction evening, they attend governors meetings and they lead worship and so much more. We look forward to working with our new JLT team!



Singleton Church of England Primary School

Star of the Week /Head teacher Commendations



July2020

Do to COVID -19 and school being closed there are no Stars of the Week for July

July2020

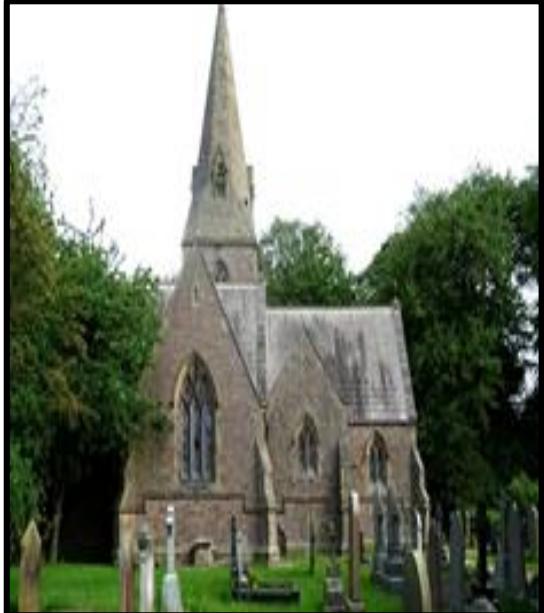
Do to COVID -19 and school being closed there are no Head teacher Commendations for July



STARS OF THE WEEK



Parish and Community links



Sunday Service

Due to COVID19 restrictions there are limited services being held.

We will keep you updated when we get further information.



Singleton Church of England Primary School

Diary dates and Holidays



Diary Dates and Holidays

HOLIDAYS 2020 /2021

Autumn Term

Open Thursday 3rd September, 2020
 Close After School Friday 23rd October, 2020 (3:00pm)
 Open Monday 2nd November, 2020
 Close After School Friday 18th December, 2020 (1.30 p.m.)

Spring Term

Open Tuesday 5th January, 2021
 Close After School Friday 12th February, 2021 (3:00pm)
 Open Monday 22nd February, 2021
 Close After School Friday 26th March, 2021 (1.30 p.m.)

Summer Term

Open Monday 12th April, 2021
 Closed Monday 3rd May – Bank Holiday
 Close After School Friday 28th May, 2021 (Normal Time)
 Open Monday 7th June, 2021
 Close After School Friday 16th July 2021 (1.30 p.m.)

Inset Days:

1st, 2nd September 2020
 4th January, 2021
 19th, 20th July 2021

HOLIDAYS 2021 /2022

Please note that these are provisional and need to be ratified by governors so may be subject to change

Autumn Term 2021

Starts on: Friday 3rd September 2021
Half Term: Monday 25 October - Friday 29 October 2021
Ends: Friday 17 December 2021

Spring Term 2022

Starts on: Wednesday 5th January 2022
Half Term: Monday 14 February - Friday 18 February 2022
Ends: Friday 1 April 2022

Summer Term 2022

Starts on: Tuesday 19 April 2022
May day: Monday 2 May 2022
Half Term: Monday 30 May -Friday 3 June 2022
Ends: Wednesday 20th July 2022

Total number of openings – 195

Inset days

1st / 2nd (Wednesday / Thursday) **September 2021**
4th (Tuesday) **January 2022**

Dates for your Diary - (3 months in advance)

September	October	November
1 st /2 nd - Staff Inset training days 3 rd - All children return – staggered start 3 rd - Foundation stage 9:00 – 11:30 4 th - Foundation stage 9:00 – 11:30 7 th - FS Stay for lunch this week – collection 1:15 14 th FS in full time this week	23 rd – School closes	2 nd – School opens

At this stage the diary dates are limited. We will constantly review and update the diary in line with COVID guidance which at this stage is dictating what we can and can't do. The residential trip to Towerwood has been cancelled for this year as per the COVID and LCC guidance and we were not able to book the annual trip to the Grand Theatre due to COVID. We will hopefully be able to plan educational visits for later in the academic year. Although Fr Martin at this time cannot deliver whole school worship, he is sending through a weekly worship video which we share with the children in their classrooms. Sadly we are not able to have class assemblies at this stage either but we will notify you once we are able to get these up and running.



Singleton Church of England Primary School

P.E. Updates



Latest information from LCC

- Schools have the flexibility to decide how physical education, sport and physical activity will be provided whilst following the measures in their system of controls.
- Pupils should be placed in 'class bubbles' and interaction between other classes minimised as far as is reasonably practicable.
- Outdoor sports and activities should be prioritised where possible, and indoor spaces used where it is not, adhering to current social distancing guidelines distancing based on the age and ability of the pupils and the feasibility of the measures.
- Contact sports and team games involving close contact **are avoided at this stage**. This is particularly important in a sports setting because of the way in which people breathe during exercise.

Equipment

- Resources that are shared between classes or bubbles, such as PE and sports equipment should be cleaned frequently and meticulously and always between bubbles, or rotated to allow them to be left unused and out of reach for a period of 48 hours (72 hours for plastics) between use by different bubbles.
- If equipment is shared, pupils will wash their hands thoroughly before and after use. Strict hand hygiene will take place before and after every PE lesson.

Competitions

- LCC agree with AFPE's guidance, which is at the current time school fixtures **should be avoided**, as this will involve contact across schools, and increase the opportunities for virus transmission.
- However, it is important to stress that it is the responsibility of every school to minimise risks and therefore **avoid any activities/sports that increase the risk**.
- Parents have every right to expect their children to be as safe as possible whilst in school.
- Community activities are different because parents/carers choose to let their children take part.

Curriculum School Swimming

- On 20 August 2020, Swim England published new guidance for school swimming lessons as pupils prepare to return to classrooms across the country.
- Swimming and water safety lessons are a compulsory part of the national curriculum yet around one in five children leave primary school unable to swim.
- The 29-page Returning to the Pool Guidance for School Swimming has been developed by Swim England in cooperation with industry partners, including local authorities, leisure operators, the Department for Education and the Association for Physical Education (AfPE). 3 Key points in the school swimming guidance include:
 - When delivering swimming lessons, swimming teachers that are external to a school bubble should adhere to Government guidance on social distancing
 - School teachers and teaching assistants that are internal to the bubble can mirror the same procedures through swimming lessons as they do in the classroom
 - Teachers should deliver from poolside
 - Providers of school swimming should review available pool space to allow for correct social distancing, including entry and exit points
 - All equipment should be sanitised before and after each activity

It shows how swimming lessons can be held safely and gives teachers the necessary information on booking the swim plus what to do before leaving the school, on arrival at the pool and in the water itself.

Highlighted in the guidance are the continued requirements for social distancing and enhanced hygiene regimes, along with guidelines on how this will impact on the different experience the pool user will have.

We will continue to carry out a reduced PE curriculum at this stage as previously stated. We don't go swimming until the summer term so will send out updated information regarding this later in the year. We will continue to ask that all children come in trainers and will contact you if we require them to come in a PE kit. At this stage we are not able to run additional extra-curricular activities – but we will keep this under constant review.



Singleton Church of England Primary School

Welcome to our new Families



We have many new children starting with us this term and I would like to welcome all the children and their families to our school. We look forward to getting to know you all and hope you settle in quickly to life at Singleton School. Our Foundation children had a brilliant first week in school, they thoroughly enjoyed meeting new friends and have settled in beautifully.





Singleton Church of England Primary School

New Staff members



As you all know Mrs. Haigh retired at the end of last term and Mrs Marshall was successful in her application for the position of Y1/2 teacher. Mrs Marshall has settled in to her new role, her classroom looks amazing and she is providing some magical learning experiences for our children. Welcome to the teaching team Mrs Marshall!

Miss Davison relocated to Chester just before lockdown but we managed to interview and appoint a replacement just before school closed.

Welcome Mrs Beattie to the Singleton team. Mrs Beattie is working in Class One alongside Mrs Marshall.

We were not able to interview and appoint a replacement for Mrs Marshall (Class 3 TA and HLTA) and Miss Green (Class 1/2 TA) due to school having to close down completely. We are interviewing in coming weeks and will keep you posted with progress.





Kids Club – A message from the VMC SOS – We need you!

Our Kids is run by a Voluntary Management Committee (VMC.) not the school. It is a separate organization which is essentially a group of volunteers. It has to be run in this way as in a small school it would not be financially viable to run in any other way. The VMC is made up of people that feel they could support the effective running and development of the club, who also recognize that for many parents Singleton Kids Club is an absolute necessity. Interestingly our current VMC very rarely use the Kids Club facilities themselves, so they really are an amazing team as they work hard so that it is sustainable for others.

We are currently at the stage where we really need to recruit some additional members to our VMC. Our current VMC are struggling at the moment given the COVID situation. All the additional mitigations and expectations surrounding COVID and the fact that they have not been able to appoint a new team leader to run the club during lockdown, has meant that the small VMC group are unable to manage the workload and to manage the expectations of parents. School staff have stepped in to support in the short term, but they are also struggling to sustain the additional workloads. We really need more volunteers at this stage. The more people we have on a VMC committee the more effectively the club can be run and jobs can be shared out so that the VMC members are not overwhelmed.

Without a VMC essentially there is no Kid's Club so the volunteers are vital and greatly appreciated. We have no limit to the amount of people we can have on the VMC. In fact as the current VMC is made up of 3 busy working parents who feel that more people means they can share out the responsibilities!

You don't have to have a child in Kids Club to become a member of the VMC. Although, we have found that parents that use the club are instrumental in developing the club as they have first-hand experiences as to what works and what doesn't.

Volunteer for your Kids Club Voluntary Management Committee

Why volunteer?

- Is your child registered at Singleton School Kids Club?
- If so – Are you interested in learning new skills?
- Would you like to meet new people?
- Would you like to share your skills, time and ideas with others?
- Have you ever wanted to improve the running of your child's before and after school club setting?
- If you answer "yes" to any of these questions, the VMC team at your child's school would love to hear from you.

Volunteering to be part of the VMC committee offers an ideal opportunity for you to become more actively and practically involved in this aspect of your child's life. It will also make a real difference to how your setting is managed. You will personally benefit from this experience by meeting with other parents, updating existing skills and learning new ones as well as putting something positive back into your local community.

What is involved?

There are lots of ways you can contribute to the committee and you can choose to give as much or as little time as you can spare. The good thing is you don't need any experience to make a difference.

Your committee members are responsible for the overall management and smooth-running of the setting. This can mean anything from organising a fundraising event to negotiating with a School over the terms of a lease.

Your committee is the employer of staff in the Kids Club so has overall responsibility for recruiting, training and developing staff, paying their salaries, and managing their contracts of employment. Your committee also has responsibility for things like developing a business plan, managing the daily accounts and, working with staff, ensuring the setting follows health and safety, risk assessment, insurance and first aid guidance and procedures.

What you can choose to do.

A lot of the work committees do is fun – building new partnerships with other parents and professionals, coming up with new ideas, getting exciting plans off the ground but there are some regular jobs too.

The three main roles on the committee are chair, treasurer and secretary. However, the tasks can be (and usually are) shared between different parents so all the work need not fall on any one person. However, overall responsibility for this work rests with the committee.

Roles and responsibilities

Committee Chairperson

- Represents and acts as a spokesperson for the Kids Club
- Chairs meetings of the VMC; including committee meetings, open meetings and general meetings, such as the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- Sets the agenda for meetings together with the Secretary.
- Co-ordinate the work of the committee to ensure effective administration.
- Acts as the 'Nominated Person' for Ofsted purposes.
- Line manages the Manager of the setting.
- Supports other committee members and authorises the work of the treasurer.

Treasurer

- Ensures the committee are aware of the financial position of the Kids Club, providing an up-to-date written statement of accounts at committee meetings.
- Ensures that all staff are aware of their financial responsibilities and comply with the VMC finance procedures.
- Line manages the staff responsible for financial administration
- Presents accounts to the members at the AGM.
- Delegates the day to day Management of the bank account to the Kids club staff – but regularly monitors the financial protocols established by the committee.

- Updates the list of signatories as necessary.
- Monitor the finances regularly ensuring that the Kids club financial records are maintained accurately and updated on a timely basis.
- Ensure that all necessary payments are made promptly.
- Oversees staff payroll and volunteers' expenses
- Arranges for the accounts to be checked annually and independently.

Secretary

- Responds punctually to all correspondence; keeping proper records.
- Organises all meetings liaising with attendees to ensure they are informed etc.
- Draws up meeting agendas and circulate to all attendees punctually.
- Takes accurate minutes during meetings, type up and send out to all attendees in a timely manner
- Supports all committee and staff members by ensuring the administrative function is efficient.

Shared responsibilities for all committee members:

- Acting in the best interests of the Kids Club; promoting its values and working to achieve excellent provision for our children.
- Working as part of a team with the other committee members; whilst bringing your own ideas, perspectives and experiences to the committee.
- Attending committee meetings and contribute to the effective management of Kids club
- Working with the Treasurer to set priorities for the budget.
- Undertaking Ofsted suitability checks as required.
- Using safe recruitment procedures and work to Early Years Foundation Stage requirements to employ suitable adults to work with the children.
- Employing a Manager to act as the person in charge of planning and the early year's provision; supporting them to successfully manage the childcare provision and ensure that the Early Years Foundation Stage and Ofsted registration requirements are met.
- Ensuring all committee members and staff have clearly identified roles and responsibilities.