

'Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones' **Proverbs 16:24**

We continue to be incredibly thankful to parents for their kind words and messages, as the verse from proverbs above states it can make such a powerful difference to others. We have again written a letter to the children this week (with a little additional fun activity) so please do share this with your child(ren) by reading to them or having them read it to you.
Mr Lincoln and the staff team.

1. COMMUNICATION

- **Website:** please check the website for answers to any queries before contacting the office.
- **Emails:** use office@stnm.org.uk to contact the school with queries – please include your child's class.
- **Positive Test Email:** only use the email positivetest@stnm.org.uk to report a positive COVID test result.
- **School Office:** the office is currently closed. Please refer to the school website for information or email office@stnm.org.uk if you have any queries.
- **Calendar:** term dates, upcoming events etc. This can be filtered by year group to help you find dates relevant to you. Follow the link for instructions on how to [use](#) or [subscribe](#) to the calendar.
- **Letters/Emails sent home this week:** click on the link for past letters:
<http://www.stnicolasmary.w-sussex.sch.uk/page/?title=Letters+Sent+Home&pid=56>
 - Y6 Dalesdown Residential
 - Letter to the children

2. WORSHIP & ETHOS: next week we will be looking at Hope and the Lord's Prayer.

3. LOCKDOWN: We know how hard families have been trying/making huge sacrifices to follow all government guidelines, in particular the *stay at home and not to socialise with others* message. As a school this is so important, as we have a duty of care for the children and staff that are in school. We are aware of a school in Manchester that **has retracted the offer of a place(s) to children where the school is aware of families not following government guidelines** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-55809975>

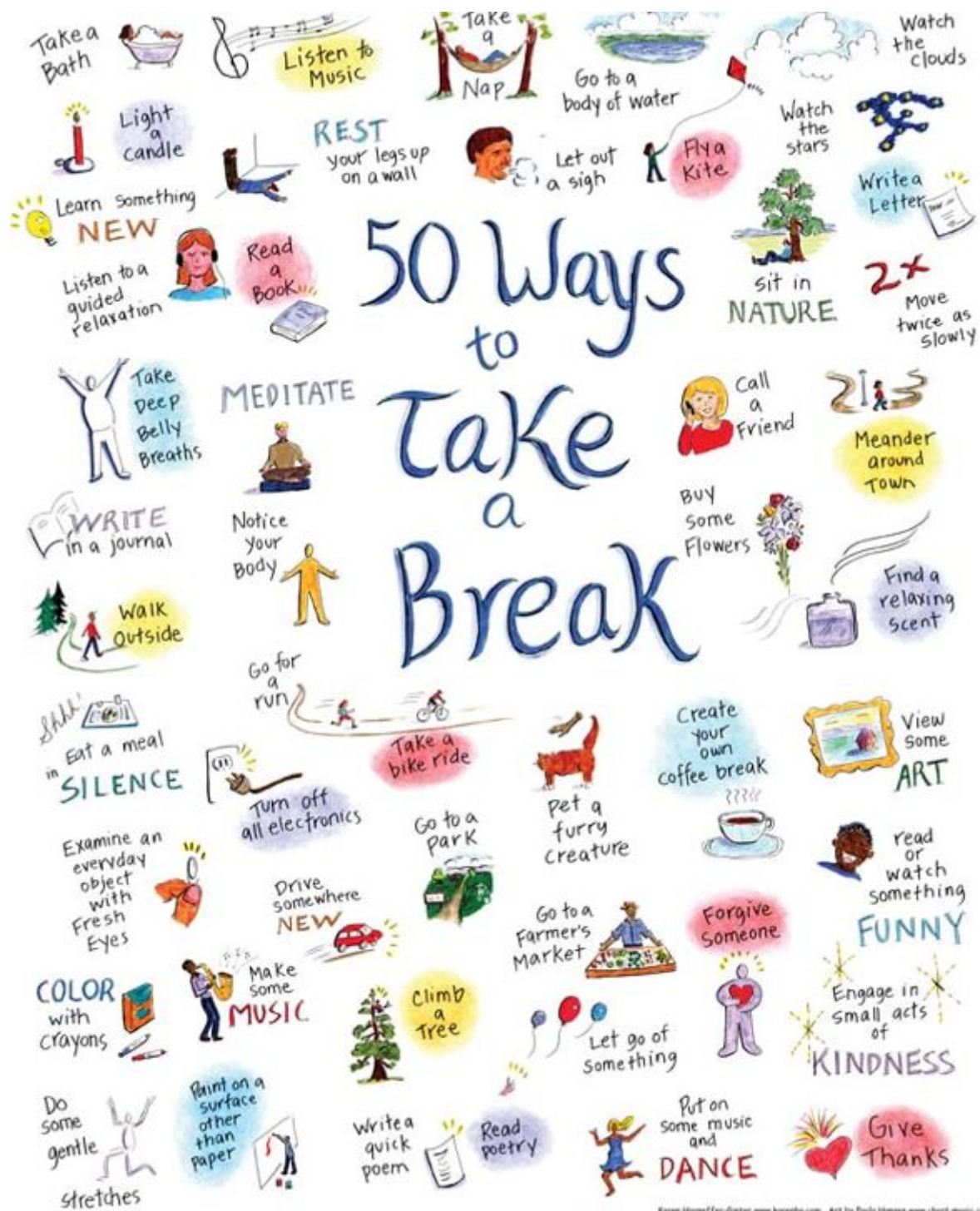
Whilst we cannot make parents follow the government directives, we would have no hesitation in implementing the same procedure if we felt it necessary.

4. RAINBOW CLUB

- **Drop-off and Pick-up times:** with reduced numbers of children on site we have been able to change the drop off and pick up times to ensure parents/carers do not need to wait longer on the playground than is needed. Please see the table below:

Class/Group/Bubble	Drop off time (from)	Pick up time
Nursery	9.00am	3.00pm
Reception	8.45am	2.55pm
Year 1	8.40am	3.00pm
Year 2	8.40am	3.00pm
Year 3	8.40am	3.05pm
Year 4	8.45am	3.10pm
Year 5	8.45am	3.05pm
Year 6	8.45am	3.10pm

5. **GOOGLE CLASSROOM:** Please do look on our Home Learning section on the school website for updated information on how to support your child with google classrooms. This includes information about how to upload work. <http://www.stnicolasmary.w-sussex.sch.uk/page/?title=Home+Learning&pid=1569>
6. **HOME LEARNING**
- **Useful Links and Resources:** please do look at the Useful Links and Resources section on our Home Learning section of the school website for additional resources to use alongside Google Classroom. <http://www.stnicolasmary.w-sussex.sch.uk/page/?title=Useful+Links+and+Resources&pid=1415>
 - **Accelerated Reading News:** Many thanks for continuing to read as much as possible at home everyone. Over the next couple of weeks, Mrs Kennard will be making up Pizza Making Kits (sadly we are unable to have Pizza Parties at the moment!) and preparing Rocking Reader Treasure Chest prizes for those who are due. She will notify families and leave the prizes in the reception area. Please carry on with the quizzes at home - Mrs Kennard is monitoring these and wanted to let you know that all Star Reader Tests will only be done when all children are back in school. Finally, thank you to those of you who are using the mobile library (in the reception area) and for returning the books back into the 'Quarantine Box' so others can use them. If you do have any questions about reading please do get in contact with the English Team. Many thanks, The English Team.
7. **OCTOPUS BREAKFAST & STARFISH AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**
- **Voucher payments:** all those who pay for Octopus and Starfish sessions with childcare vouchers have now been invoiced for this half-term. If your child is not attending school at this time, any sessions you booked before Christmas have been cancelled. Please get in touch if you have any queries.
 - **Little Octopus and Little Starfish Clubs:** we are unable to offer sessions at Little Starfish and Little Octopus Clubs at this time. We will update you via the bulletin should this change.
 - **Bookings slots** for the 2nd half of spring term will be available on sQuid by the end of today. PLEASE DO NOT BOOK IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT IN SCHOOL, please wait until the Government announces schools are reopening. We appreciate your assistance in this matter as if slots are booked and not used due to lockdown it causes a lot of extra administration and children of critical workers may not be able to book their required sessions.
8. **FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS - Vouchers for weeks commencing 1st and 8th February:** Vouchers for these weeks will be delivered and distributed on Monday 1st February. We are currently waiting for information with regards to the voucher scheme during the half term break.
9. **PHOTOGRAPHY OPPORTUNITY:** Rev Steve, who is working with Rev Anne, has set up a church Instagram account called @shorehampilgrim. He would like to run a series of weekly posts based around the following: gratitude, hope, joy, peace, beauty and love. He has invited children and their families to take part and has asked that photographs do not contain any children's faces (unless parents are happy for them to appear on a public Instagram account). When emailing him please state whether you have an Instagram account and if so what it is. It would be helpful if photographs were square, but if not he can crop them. If you would like to, please email your photo to: shorehamcurate@gmail.com. Any further questions, please contact Rev Steve. Thanks, Mrs Westcott
10. **SPECSAVERS 'VIRTUAL' SUSSEX SCHOOL GAMES:** The winter Games are coming this February! Each Monday 4 new winter sports challenges will be released, giving you the chance to ski, skate and even bobsleigh from the comfort of your own living room. You won't need any special equipment, anyone can get involved. Throughout the week you can practice, train and improve, before submitting your best scores in each challenge ahead of the Friday deadline (12pm midday). Your score will be added to your school total, meaning that you can be part of your school team, and compete against all of the other schools in the county. More information is available here www.sussexschoolgames.co.uk



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