



## St Nicolas and St Mary Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

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Executive Headteacher Mr D Etherton B.Ed Hons. NPQH

Acting Headteacher Mr A Lincoln BA Hons

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

As our Year 6 children enter their final term here at St Nic's, we are looking to give them the best experience possible over the next three months. We are acutely aware of how disappointed last years Year 6 cohort were that they missed out on key events such as Dalesdown, therefore our absolute priority is to try and ensure this is not repeated this year

As with all we do in school, we always look to go the 'extra-mile' for our children and whilst other schools have been unable to/have chosen not to offer the key events detailed below, we are determined to do everything possible, whilst still adhering to government guidelines and restrictions.

We are aware that there is some disappointment that our Dalesdown trip has fallen in the same week as the transition events, however it is important to note that:

- We could not have foreseen, when we booked the date, that we would still have been in the midst of the Covid Pandemic, and that there would have been a further national lockdown.
- If we had stuck with our original booking date of the beginning of June then it is highly likely that the trip would not have been able to take place at all. This is due to use having to postpone our Year 5 Truleigh Hill trip (booked for the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> June) till September 2021- due to the Youth Hostel Association not being able to host school parties before the start of July.
- We have explored finding an alternative week however this is not possible due to no other availability.

We have been in contact with the secondary schools that our Year 6 children are to be attending and are in negotiations to try, where at all possible, to organise an alternative transition event (on a different week) for our children. One of our local secondary schools has agreed to put on an event during the week beginning the 28<sup>th</sup> June and we are in negotiations with the other secondary schools.

We do understand the importance of the transition events which is why (as noted above) we are trying to do all we can to organise alternative dates. It is too soon to know if the government and the local authority, will permit children who attend Dalesdown, to leave to attend a transition event and then return to the trip. We will explore this further and as soon as we have any further information regarding this (and alternative transition events dates), we will let parents and children know.

### 'SATS WEEK':

We are replicating what would have been our SATS week this year on the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> May. The children will be invited in for an early breakfast (around 8.30am) Monday to Thursday of that week and the week concludes with a BBQ on the Friday afternoon. There will be one test taken each day of the week, and leading up to the week, we will be revising within school time.

### DALESDOWN:

We have scheduled an initial outdoor meeting for Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 3.30pm to discuss Dalesdown and answer any potential questions surrounding the week. More formal information and kit lists etc will be sent out electronically nearer the time. If an outdoor meeting is not possible then we will set up a virtual meeting.

### PRODUCTION:

We have begun to prepare for our end of year production of 'Pirates Of The Curry Bean'. We are hopeful that the final performances will be able to take place in the Main School Hall, however we will have to consider other alternatives nearer the time if restrictions do not allow (this could include restricted ticket allocation, having an outside performance or filming the play). The provisional dates for the performances will be 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> July – times to be confirmed. In the meantime, some homework will be set around the learning of lines and songs for the performance and we appreciate your support in helping the children with this.

Traditionally, we ask for parent volunteers to support with making the set/scenery and preparing costumes. If you are interested in helping out, please speak to one of the year 6 team and we can begin to gather a list of names and create a support group.

We appreciate your support and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any other questions.

Mr Lincoln & The Year 6 Team