



Headteacher: Mrs. R.A. Black, B.Ed (Hons)

Dear Parents,

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

A very different format for the Newsletter this week; due to a very different week.

I know I am not alone in having shed tears this week about the situation that our families, schools and the country finds itself in. In these unprecedented times and uncharted waters I have been immensely proud of our St Andrew's Community.

The children have 'carried on as normal' as learning, socialising and fun have continued- just as it should be! The entire staff team (even those at home due to household illness) have pulled together with good humour and a 'Blitz Spirit'. They have adapted and juggled many new and multiple tasks each day. Mrs Draper and Mrs Banyard, in the office, who are our 'front-line' support for many of our parents have worked even harder than usual. As absence reporting became more of a beast than normal, the phones and e mails have multiplied and yet they still smile and go the extra mile for all of our children and families. A huge thank you to them all.

Thank you for the swift response from our 'Key Worker' data collection- a separate letter will be sent to any families who the 'Childcare support' applies to.

I know that some children are fearful that they won't return this academic year. As a person who's cup is always half-full; I am whole-heartedly hoping that before this academic year is through 'life will have got back to normal' (even if it is a slightly 'new normal' for a while).

I shall be in regular contact during this period of time (as will the class teachers) but I want to wish you and your families well and look forward to seeing you all when the time is right.

Thank you all for your unwavering support this year- I doubt that many new Head teachers have felt as supported and as trusted as I have. With very best wishes, Becky Black and the whole team at St Andrew's Junior School.

A message I would like to share that I have received today from Barrie, Sandie and Ria from Reality Church.

As you leave the school today, may you go into the world with love in your hearts.

Love for God, Love for your neighbour, Love for yourself, May that Love bring goodness and kindness to all you meet.

And May God, Maker, Saviour and Comforter Bless you all as you go today and forever.

#### REQUEST:

As we prepare for our role in school changing over the forthcoming days and the focus becoming mainly 'childcare' rather than 'education' I am keen to develop some new areas in school. If anyone has any of the following they are able to donate to the school I would really appreciate it (as will the children and families who will be accessing our care).

- Beanbags or large floor cushions
- Board games, Lego, puzzles
- Comics or childrens' magazines.
- Old teapots/saucepans etc for the mud kitchen (Forest School)

