



Healthy Schools

GODSHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Interim Executive Head Teacher:

Mr M Snow

Godshill,

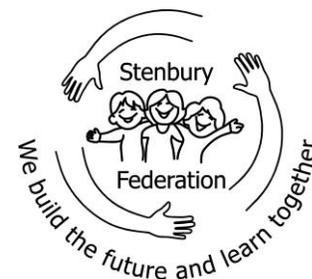
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Thursday 16th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Children who are starting school in September 2020,

Welcome. We have just received the list and it is exciting to now know who will be joining us at Godshill in September. It's great to see so many familiar names and families on the list as well as some new names who we are really looking forward to welcoming as part of our family.

Receiving the acceptance letter for your child's place in September can stir up all sorts of emotions. As well as being really exciting and a relief that you have the place, sometimes, knowing that they are starting school for the first time can be a daunting prospect, as it is the next stage of your child growing up and building on their independence. You may also feel that it is a long way off and you are waiting in limbo for what feels like an eternity. I want to just reassure you that although the situation with the lockdown is continually changing and we cannot set events and dates at the moment, as things progress, we will be putting things in place to help to make your child's transition into school as smooth and natural as we can so it feels perfectly normal to them.

What is lovely, for those of you with children who have been attending Griffins, is that your children have already become part of the school. As well as coming into the main building every day to have lunch with the rest of the school, they share the outside area with the Reception class and have frequently joined with Reception for different learning experiences and vice versa including the Christmas production, sharing stories and doing a range of activities. This has given them the opportunity to become really familiar with other staff within the school who they will be coming into contact with in September. As well as this, Early Years have the added bonus of using tapestry to share their learning and experiences with their key workers. This will continue into Reception so I ask that, especially whilst you are not attending preschool at the moment, that you share as much as you can through tapestry as it really helps us to build a picture of your child and tailor the provision and learning to their individual needs.



If you have not been attending Griffins at the moment, please don't worry, I am sure your preschool settings have a similar system to tapestry for building learning journeys of your children. Please make sure that, if you can, you contribute to them because we will work with your child's keyworker at their preschool to make sure we build the best transition for your child. If you do not have any way of doing this through your preschool, you could make a scrap book of your child's learning and experiences – or maybe an electronic version that you can save.

Although your child can't go to preschool at the moment, this is a great opportunity for you to spend time with your child and do things that you wouldn't always get the opportunity to do together. As well as making memories with them, you are giving them the life-skills to learn which will really help them when they start school. Why not play games with turn taking, solve puzzles, read stories, play with imaginary worlds, do some creative and making activities, and make constructions to name but a few ideas.

When we open again we will be organising for you to meet Mrs Smith and Mrs Sargent and be able to have personal discussions about your child and the routines of school as well as organising transition times for your child. In the meantime, you could have a look on the Godshill Facebook page where Mrs Smith has been uploading stories for the children to listen to.

If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We really look forward to welcoming you into the school.

Take care and kind regards,

Mrs Tombleson
Lead Teacher