



### Welcome back to Sir Robert Geffery's

It has been a long time since we have had all learners on site at the same time, so it is great to see everybody once again. We know we live in uncertain times and everybody has different levels of anxiety and concern, but we know that routine is good for all of us and good first-hand experiences are important for all.

We have planned a topic this half a term called Let's Investigate - this will allow staff to assess and guide pupil's learning, to make sure that gaps are closed for some and challenges continue when appropriate for others. It will also allow us to make sure that the outside spaces are used effectively.

We will be reviewing systems very regularly and adjusting until we get it right. Being flexible and adaptable is something that we have all had to become over the past six months. We will make sure we update you during our weekly newsletter. These will continue to be electronic and can also be accessed on the school website.

### School Drop Off and Collection

Please can you try to keep to the staggered times and family groups collect at the time of the **oldest child**. If you wish your oldest child to walk home on their own please do let us know and then we will make sure the younger sibling will be organised and be ready earlier. We need the KS2 children to stay till their timings as we are rotating lessons in the afternoon and have planned the coverage of this lesson till 4pm for Year 4, 5 and 6 and 3.50pm for Year 3. This is a temporary arrangement but has been put together during our risk assessment process.

Children who need to be dropped off at 8am should be booked in so we know who to expect, however if there is a problem we can accommodate any who need this. The last school collection is 4.30pm unless booked in for Club 3.30 with preschool and they will be taken there. Once again complete the google form link.....

<https://forms.gle/7RnccXCJ25BcfvFR>

As a reminder for all other children

Year 6 and siblings drop off at 8.20am, collection 4.20pm.

Year 5 and siblings drop off at 8.25am, collection 4.10pm.

Year 4 and siblings drop off at 8.30am, collection 4.00pm.

Year 3 and siblings drop off at 8.35am, collection 3.50pm

Year 2 and siblings drop off at 8.40am, collection 3.40pm.

Year 1 only child in school drop off at 8.45am, collection 3.35pm.

Reception only child in school drop off at 8.50am, collection 3.30pm.

### Thank you

Thank you for helping us to make the first day back a good one for the children. There was a great deal of positivity and it was good to see the enthusiasm of all those who returned to school. We were also so pleased to welcome our new children and see so many smiling faces.

It was the first day and we know there is still room for improvement getting all children into the building and back out to you in a timely manner. Our handwashing took ages so we have already organised a second trough to be installed at the back of school near the Year 1 door. We will also be using sanitiser at certain points of the day.

We hope in the long run to reduce the length of the day and stagger's but until we have it running smoothly we cannot begin to do this. For the first day it was OK and at times went really well and we will make sure that the children are in a safe environment and that their learning experiences in school are the best we can provide. Thank you for all your positive comments and emails already - they are appreciated.

## **Staffing**

Every bubble has at least four members of staff so we can support the children really well.

We have invested in staff so that the children can benefit from their many talents and interests and also have the support they need under the direction of the teacher.

### **Reception Team**

Mrs Hawkings/Mr Hambly (Thurs am), Jackie (HLTA), Jade (TA), Emma (TA Apprentice) and Miss Renfree (School Direct Teacher)

### **Year 1 Team**

Mrs James, Dani (TA), Emily (Apprentice), Mr Whittaker (School Direct Teacher)

### **Year 2 Team**

Mrs Clarke, Carlyne (HLTA), Georgia (TA Apprentice) and Mr Cope (School Direct Teacher)

### **Year 3 Team**

Miss Appleby, Libby (TA), Lisa (TA), Justin (TA), Ellye (TA Apprentice) and Mr Miller (School Direct Teacher)

### **Year 4 Team**

Mr Arundell, Ben (TA), Miss Townsend (Apprentice) and Miss Angwin (School Direct Teacher)

### **Year 5 Team**

Mr Crudge/Mr Hambly (Fri), Caitlin/Sam Bowers (TA), Lee-Anne (TA) and Mr Hall (School Direct Teacher)

### **Year 6 Team**

Mrs Cunningham/Mrs Curtis (maths/English groups), Nic Jones/Becky (TA), Susan (TA), Heidi (TA Apprentice) and Mr Summers (School Direct Teacher)

## **School Dinners**

The current school dinner menu is available to view on the school website in the News section.

## **School Environment**

As we are still reducing the footfall and you will not be in the building, I will outline work completed.

Trish has painted so much of the building once again - it looks clean and fresh.

The carpets have all been professionally cleaned along with the mats, new one-way arrows are in place.

The tables have been set up in forward facing rows - new additional tables were ordered and have been delivered.

Year 1 and 2 now have lockers in their areas and they look good - the children will use the bottom three rows allowing the top for storage that adults will access. They will prevent clutter.

Chrome book storage will also be located in these areas - we are awaiting 30 new ones to take our total to 180. This along with our laptops, ipads and the ICT suite will make sure all have access in the classroom.

The canopy has been installed on the KS1 playground and we are awaiting 6 new recycled picnic tables to provide an additional outside classroom.

Mrs Hawkings and Jackie and other members of the team have revamped the EYFS classroom as we have some exciting new furniture and resources.

We have had drainage problems sorted (we hope) - we became good at floods and there were times that Trish and I knew how Noah felt!

Our new books have been put on accelerated reader thanks to Cat's great organisation.

The new Bug Club phonics readers are organised so children can read at school and bring home a totally decodable book as well as other books.

Staff have been updating their knowledge by completing additional Safeguarding Courses.

Every area has replenished and renewed cleaning equipment in place.

## School Values

As you know Sir Robert Geffery's is a 'School for Enthusiasts' and we know that with God's help we can be the best we can.

The words in John 10 verse 10 are a reminder to us to live, '*Life in all its fullness.*'

## Hillside School

For many years we have supported the work of Hillside School in Ikona in Uganda. The generosity of our community has made a real difference to so many children who are now trained in different ways and supporting their community. Some are now nurses, other's teachers. Many have gone on to university. We help by raising money from cake sales and sending it to buy resources and to sponsor students. Several parents past and present give money regularly, if you would like to email Debbie for bank details. £5 a month funds a term at school! Our cake sale money is used to sponsor the children and orphans.

Cake sales this term will be on

- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June
- Please do bring in cakes and give your child some money to buy!!
- One cake sale usually means that 3 children can attend school for a year-an easy way to make a long term difference
- ***Together we can make Ikona Hillside primary school realise its objectives.***

## Updated Information

To update our records with children's interests, as we do each year, to ensure all children are included, please complete the form that can be found here.

<https://forms.gle/29ZCU1HBcjYYaMbo9>

## Our Shared Vision

Our aim is to provide a living Christian school environment where we strive for each child to develop a passion for learning and a sense of excitement in their own achievement and that of others.

Our vision is that our school will provide its children and staff with: -

- Christian values and beliefs that are expressed through a loving, caring and safe environment.
- The ability to think critically, the courage to question injustice, and a willingness to take the lead, and to look out for others.
- A family atmosphere that encourages a sense of belonging and results in the whole school working as a team.
- A nurturing and growth of both self-confidence and self esteem.
- Broad and balanced experiences that prepare for 21st century sustainable living.
- A sense of pride in the school and many opportunities to celebrate effort, success and achievement.
- The promotion of respect for oneself, others and the environment.
- An ability to strive for excellence.
- A lasting love, enthusiasm and zest for learning through experiencing an exciting curriculum.
- A fully inclusive school where each individual is highly valued and encouraged to reach their full potential.
- Opportunities that encourage independence, cooperation, self-discipline and an active global perspective.

Our values, below, underpin our ethos and the school song helps all to learn these.

Creation  
Service  
Love  
Trust  
Friendship  
Thankfulness  
Peace

Our Special Ten Bible Stories will be revisited during the class assemblies in the next few weeks

These were selected by our community and also underpin our ethos and are taught in assemblies, RE days and in the curriculum

Joshua - Be Bold Be Strong

David and Goliath - Standing up for what is right and being brave as well as trust in God

Noah's Ark - God's Promise

Creation - Celebration of God's world

10 Commandments - Rules to live by

Feeding of Five Thousand - Miracle to provide for all

Good Samaritan - Caring for one another

Parable of Sower - Planting the seed

The Widow's Coins - Giving to charity whatever we can

Christmas and Easter Story

David and Goliath - Making a difference by trusting in God

### **Hens**

We have some hens that can be rehomed. Please email the office if you are interested.

### **School Uniform**

School uniform orders are now available for collection from the school office.

### **Chromebooks**

Please can any chromebooks that were borrowed during the summer term be returned this week.

## **Drum Lessons @ SRG !!**

Drum lessons are run by Mr (Mark) Hambly, who also works in the school delivering Music curriculum lessons. Mr Hambly is a specialist music teacher and also a former Royal Marines Bandsman.

Drum lessons will be available for all ages and all are run on a '1 to 1' basis. Planning will ensure their goals are achieved through tailored tuition, positive use of lesson time and a strong bond between teacher and learner.

Lessons will take place on an electronic drum kit. The electronic kits are exactly the same set up as a normal (acoustic) drum kit; however, you have control of the volume and you can have some fun with the sounds too!

Lessons:

20 minutes = £8

30 minutes = £12

Please let the office know if you would be interested.