

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

Happy New Year

Dear All

As you know we are NOT opening school on Monday due to the Tier 4 restrictions and DFE guidance. This we have been informed will be reviewed in 2 weeks.

Therefore, learning will be online from Tuesday. You will be resent our child's log in details for all of the learning platforms via email on Sunday so please keep an eye on emails this weekend. Please note the log ins have not changed. Staff will be phoning you on your mobile from Tuesday and the number they ring from will be withheld so please do answer if you get a call from a 'no ID' number.

From Monday the school phone will be transferred to Mrs Brenta, who will be working at home. There will be key worker children and vulnerable children only in school. If you think you may qualify for this please ask your employer to confirm your employment, and days and hours to be worked over the next 2 weeks. The DFE guidance is available on the gov. UK website as to which type of employment qualifies. If you would like more information or feel you are eligible please email me: [headteacher@st-james.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-james.southwark.sch.uk). We hope that we can start offering key worker and vulnerable children support early next week but it will NOT be available on Monday.

This is a very difficult time for the school community, we are here for you. Mrs Brenta has breakfast boxes and can help with applications for benefits etc. so please do email or phone if you are finding life tough at the moment. We will start to send out via email school meal vouchers next week. You will be emailed with all of the information on how to use the vouchers, so again keep checking emails.

Please engage with the home learning. I completely understand how hard it is, but again we are here to help. Staff will be phoning daily to support you with the home learning. Please do answer the phone and give us feedback. If you need a hand logging in please let us know, or if you have any technical issues Mrs Davies is brilliant and will be able to help with any IT related queries.

This is not how I hoped we would start the year, you have all been incredibly resilient and strong over the last few months, and it does feel as though with the vaccine we are looking towards a brighter future in 2021.

Sending my best wishes for a healthy and happy new year to all,

Kind regards

Mrs Willis