



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

Acting Heads of School: Miss F. Cordingley and Miss C. King

24th August 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Revised Start Date for Term 1 of the 2018-2019 Academic Year

It has been a busy and exciting time at school during the summer holidays and we look forward to having the whole school family back on their home site from September 2018.

Our building project team have worked tirelessly to achieve a September opening for the school, despite the additional challenges presented by extremely hot weather which delayed some aspects of the build. They have worked at the weekend and during evenings to keep the project on track and are continuing to do so throughout the holidays. Miss Cordingley has also worked throughout the summer, attending project meetings and planning, to ensure that exceptional learning opportunities can be provided from the moment pupils return to the Academy this September.

In order to ensure that each classroom is ready and high quality resources are in place for your children, we will need to postpone the first day back and pupils will **return to school on Wednesday 5th September 2018**. This is one day later than the date previously shared and advertised - Tuesday 4th September.

This decision has been made after very careful consideration and will ensure a smooth start to teaching. It will also mean that our support staff, such as Teaching Assistants, can be in the classrooms helping your children settle in and learn, rather than having to continue unpacking resources over an extended period of time.

The hard work by the build team means that children in Years 1, 2 and 3 will be in new classrooms from the start of term situated next to the hall and reception areas. The internal fitting and decoration of these classrooms will be completed for the start of term. We will also have new toilet facilities operating from day one – a welcome change from the temporary outside toilets available since the fire.

In addition to the replacement of the previous building structure, the Project Leader and Governing Body have secured the installation of mist suppression equipment to reduce damage should a fire occur. This was an additional item to the original specification and again took time to secure and install.

The build team will hand over the classrooms and offices to the school towards the end of next week. School staff will then clean the rooms, move in furniture and resources and prepare the learning environments to allow your children to be in their own classroom from their first day back. This is a significant achievement and we are sure that you will join us in thanking the builders and project lead. School staff will be extremely busy working in school during the end of next week and first two days of week one.

The external works are on track and the low combustibile cladding will be fitted to the outside before the end of September.

It is great to have everyone back in the village school and we look forward to working in partnership with you this year to achieve the best for your children.

Yours sincerely

Laura Smith
Chair of Governors