



# Venerable Bede Church of England Academy

## Dayspring Trust



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Headteacher: Mr D Airey (BSc Hons)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs G A Booth (BA Hons/M.Ed.)

DAI

23/10/20

Dear Parent / Carer

Thank you for your help and support this half term as we have worked to get our pupils back into school and into a routine. I know that it has not been easy or straightforward as we attempt to return to as near normal as we can. I would like to say thank you to all of our pupils and staff as they have continued to follow the processes in place to make sure that we all keep as safe as possible. We are lucky in that we have not seen any significant outbreaks of coronavirus in the school population, although, as you might expect, we have had a number of cases. Thank you to everyone who has followed all of the systems to inform us of any cases.

As we try to get back to normal, we are slowly reintroducing certain systems and routines into school. We are planning that after half term pupils will be given a new locker next to their tutor room. This will mean that they can store outdoor coats and wellingtons etc in there so that they do not need to carry them around school all day. We will share how and when pupils will access their lockers with you in due course; this needs to fit in with our COVID secure plans and risk assessment.

As you will be aware, we break up for half term on Friday 22 October next week. The **pupils will be dismissed slightly early at around 1.30 p.m.** There will be some wellbeing activities set in FOLDr for the pupils to complete when they get home, as well as our latest pupil survey (parent survey will follow to).

I would like to share with you that The Reverend Stuart Bain, Chair of the Board of Directors of Dayspring Trust, is retiring this month after 17 years of Service to our School Community (as well as the wider Sunderland Community as Archdeacon and subsequently Provost of Sunderland Minster.) There will be a service in school on the afternoon of Friday 22 October starting at 2.15 p.m. We will be inviting 2 Tutor group representatives from each form, prefects and our school choir to remain in school and help us celebrate Stuart's time with us. If additional pupils and parents would like to be present at this service, particularly if they know Rev. Bain, or have worked alongside him in the past, please complete this form <https://forms.office.com/r/1WrcTRQu59>. Places are limited, with social distancing and the current restrictions, so a prompt return would be appreciated and no later than Wednesday 20 October at 12.00 p.m.

Schools are in the process of receiving a number of carbon dioxide / air quality monitors. These will be used in classrooms and around school to ensure that the quality of air is acceptable, so reducing the chances of coronavirus transmission. This should help us get the balance between fresh air and warmth in classrooms and other areas of school. Please remember that pupils are encouraged to wear a plain black or grey v necked school jumper if they feel the cold ([school uniform link](#)).



Finally, I would like to wish you all a restful half term break. School reopens on Monday 1 November at our usual time (breakfast club from 7.45 a.m.).

Yours Faithfully

*David Airey.*

Mr. D. Airey  
Headteacher



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