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## St James' Church of England Junior School

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**Headteacher:** Mr Andrew Beattie

*"With exploring minds, and faith; we grow and learn together."*

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14<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start this week's letter by firstly thanking all families for your outstanding continued efforts towards your child's learning. I have been so impressed how our children continue to show The St James' Way. Looking through The Penny in the Jar Galleries, gives me immense pride and shows the terrific work and efforts being shown right across the school. It was also great to see lots of pictures of smiling children decked out in red, white and blue as they commemorated the 75th Anniversary of VE day last Friday. I think the celebrations gave families a much-needed break.

On Sunday, we heard the announcement that schools would be partially reopening for Year 6 children at the earliest date of 1st June. This was followed by further guidance to schools and parents late on Monday evening. The parent information was sent out on Tuesday, but can be referred to again here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

In response to this guidance, staff have been busy interpreting the information and forming initial plans. Full risk assessments are being drawn up and considered, and much thought is going into each and every practice and procedure to ensure the safety of the children, staff and wider school community. This is very much a 'work in progress' at the moment and we are seeking further clarity from government and unions on a number of issues.

We are keen to share our approach, and in time, we will share a fuller picture with parents. We appreciate that Sunday's announcement and subsequent news will have caused a great deal of concern for you and your child, and you understandably will have many questions at this time. Once school is able to offer clearer guidance, we will ensure parents feel supported in their decision making. But for now, I ask for your patience.

Thank you for your continued support. Stay safe.

Andrew Beattie  
Headteacher

Rev Robert Jackson  
Chair of Governors



SCHOOL  
MEMBER