

## ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

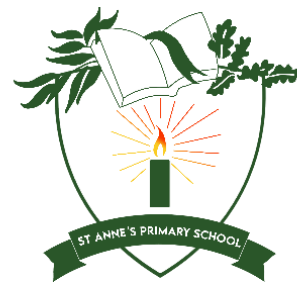
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**Headteacher: Mrs C Martin**



22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope this message finds you well.

We are excited to inform you that we are making changes to our playground to enhance the playtime experience for our students.

Of the seven years spent at primary school, an estimated equivalent of 1.4 years is spent in both break and lunchtime. We want this time to be purposeful, developing our children holistically.

Play fosters physical, cognitive, social and emotional development. Research also suggests that children who participate in regular play activities tend to perform better academically and exhibit improved mental health.

To ensure the children at our school are exposed to such developmental opportunities, we will be adding distinct zones to our playground. These zones have been thoughtfully chosen to encourage development whilst catering to the diverse needs and interests of our students. Examples of zones include:

- **Creative Zone:** An area filled with art and craft resources to encourage children to create and design using a range of mediums.
- **Organised Games Zone:** An area where organised sporting activities will take place.
- **Traditional Games Zone:** An area for children to play traditional games such as snakes and ladders.

To ensure each zone is well-equipped, we kindly ask for your support in providing the following resources:

1. **Loose Parts:** Items such as tins, wooden pallets, crates and large cardboard boxes that children can move, build with and manipulate.
2. **Small World Items:** Figures, cars, dinosaurs, farmyard animals and other small toys that encourage imaginative play.
3. **Creative Materials:** Art supplies like chalk, paint, brushes and fabric for creative expression.
4. **Kitchen Utensils:** Pots, pans, spoons and other kitchen items for imaginative games and for making sounds (no sharp items).
5. **Gardening Utensils:** Small hand-held tools such as shovels, trowels, and watering cans to encourage gardening and nature exploration (no sharp items).
6. **Sports Equipment:** Balls, ropes, hoops and other items for physical activities and games.
7. **Role Play Resources:** Costumes, props (e.g., old suitcases) and themed play sets (e.g. doctors set, shop setup etc.) to inspire imaginative and socio-dramatic play.

8. **Loose Materials:** Versatile items such as fabric sheets, tarps and ropes that can be used for imaginative play.
9. **Structured Games:** Board games, card games and outdoor games to provide structured play opportunities.

If you have any of the listed items that are no longer in use and can be donated to our school, we kindly ask that you bring them to our playground resources drop-off points. The points are located at the bottom of the ramp outside the school office/hall and to the right upon entering the school playground using the back gate.

Each item will be carefully inspected to ensure the safety of our children.

Furthermore, if you are able to donate your time and support in the creation of much needed structures, please do contact Miss Green ([hgreen@stannes-chertsey.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:hgreen@stannes-chertsey.surrey.sch.uk)).

Your generosity will make a significant difference.

We understand that this is a journey and will take some time to fully implement. We appreciate your patience and continued support as we work towards creating a developmental and engaging playground for our children.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Martin, Miss Green and the rest of the St Anne's Team.

