



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 11th September 2020



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*'Happy are those who hear the word of God
and keep it' Luke 11:28*

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have reached the end of our first full week of school and everyone has been busy settling back into our new routines. Each class has been learning lots of exciting new things as well as spending time talking about our feelings and thoughts.

Bubble Arrival and Exit times, Social Distancing and parking

We continue to work hard to ensure the safety and well being of all staff. As you will be aware Preston remains under Local restrictions and levels of infection remain high. It is therefore imperative we continue to work together to prevent infection and / or school closures. Please note the key safety reminders detailed below

- Pupils/ family members should not enter school grounds if they demonstrate ANY symptoms
- Bubbles open at 8.45 and 9.00 am and close at 3.00 and 3.15 pm. Please adhere strictly to times. We cannot be flexible in these times.
- At collection time only one adult should enter the school grounds
- Should you need to contact a staff member please email/ telephone school
- Please park on the Smith Arms pub and walk down to school at your allocated time
- Please wait in the car, when possible, until your child's Bubble time
- Do not gather around the school grounds and remember Social Distancing
- Once your child has been received into the playground we ask families to leave the school area
- Pupils are not permitted to play on the equipment before or after school

Coronavirus Symptoms and Testing

If you or any member of your family have any symptoms the safest thing to do is get a test. You do not need to show EVERY symptom to get a test.

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test. These symptoms are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

To organise a test you need to call 119. If a child is 'Symptomatic' in school they will be expected to get a test and share the result before returning.

School Photographs

Tempest Photography will be in school on Thursday 24th September from 8.30 a.m.. The photographer will take individual and family portraits. If you wish for younger siblings that don't attend school to join for the family photograph this slot will be at 8.30 am. - 9.00 a.m. in the School Hall.

Please note; In order to ensure safety and that we follow our Risk Assessments and Guidelines. Sibling portraits will be completed in slots and Social distancing will be practised at all times.

Limited paper use

As you will be aware we are limiting the amount of 'paper use' to minimise the risk of viruses and prevent spread. Newsletters will be on our website and certificates will be emailed. On the occasion a paper item is sent home this will usually need to remain at home.

School Bags

As you can imagine we constantly review and evaluate our Risk Assessments making changes and adaptation as required for the safety of all. At present, as we are unable to send home books and are limiting paper correspondence, it is not necessary for pupils to have school bags/ book bags in school. Pupils may continue to bring in water bottles and packed lunches as normal. P.E kits should be sent into school and remain in school. Thank you for your support.

Free School Meal – eligibility – Have You Registered for Pupil Premium?

As you will be aware pupils in Foundation Stages and Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are eligible for a free school meal. Some pupils have a statutory entitlement to free school meals ie those pupils whose parents/carers are in receipt of one of the qualifying benefits. We still need you to register as this helps both the school and the pupils. The benefits are listed below for information:-

Free Schools Meals & Pupil Premium Eligibility Criteria: -

1. Universal Credit

2. Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
3. Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
4. Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
5. Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
6. Child Tax Credit (Income of less than £16,190)
7. Working Tax Credit
8. Income Support

If you require any support or further explanation please ask Mrs Lofthouse, our Office Manager, who will be happy to assist you.

Uniform and PE Kits

Pupils must wear full school uniform and we ask, in order to reduce the transition of viruses that these are regularly washed.

Please ensure any hair accessories worn are school colours only.

Pupils will require a full PE kit in school including trainers for outdoor P.E. and plimsolls for indoor lessons to enable them to take part. As part of your child's 'in school' kit please could we ask that you also send in a spare pair of socks and underwear. Children may need to change for any number of reasons and it is always a more comfortable experience if they are changing into their own clothes.

If you require any additional advice on uniform please see a staff member.

EPIC reading



Get Epic! Online reading

We have been getting lots of queries about 'GetEpic!' online reading. I hope this information helps to clarify the steps required for the children to access 'GetEpic!' both inside and outside of school.

GetEpic! Is a free website that offers the children access to free reading, audio books, videos and quizzes. It is an American website and therefore I would suggest children select reading suitable for their ages. We will be relying on free online reading resources for the foreseeable future due to the current Covid situation and this website is one of the more reliable ones.

Please bear with the Oxford Owl website, all passwords and usernames are correct but the website is a free one and can be a little temperamental! Class login details can be found on the class pages.

Thank you for your support

Mrs Shoulder

How to access Epic!

Step 1

- **Your child's teacher needs a parent email address to add to the class online Epic register.**
(This is what the school texts have been requesting, please email your child's class teacher with a current email if you haven't done so already.)

Step 2

- **Your child's teacher the invites you to sign up to GetEpic! By generating an email from GetEpic.**
(It is GetEpic! that need your consent for out of school reading on the website. I understand this consent gives them access to books between 4pm & 7pm. Please look out for this email and check your clutter/trash/spam folders.)

Step 3

- **Once you have received the email you must respond to it to activate your child's reading account.**

Step 4:

- **Once you have activated your child's account visit <https://www.getepic.com/students>**
- **Each class has their own class passwords which are available on the class pages**
- **Your child should then be able to click on their name and select a book to read.**

	<u>E.A.T Award</u> <u>Explore, Be Active and Think creatively</u>	<u>Achievement Award</u>
Class 1	Ellis Leigh	Bailey Jenkin
Class 2	Rosie Robinson	Elliott Williams
Class 3	Leah Whitehead	Jaiden Connell
Class 4	Charlie Whitehead	Maizie-lei Barton

At St. Mary's School we

"Live our lives as Jesus taught us,

Work hard together to achieve our best,

Respect each other and the world around us,

Have fun and enjoy learning!"



