



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 25th 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 thank you for your continued support with ensuring the safe running and opening of our school. We continue to have High levels of Infection within our area and I know many school have partial and even full closures. We must all continue to work in partnership.



Below you will see a link to the most recent guidance for our area. Once again we would ask you to take the time to read this. I have received queries in relation to who can/cannot collect pupils and the link clarifies the rules for childcare. I would ask families however to consider carefully the importance of limiting the number of contacts pupils have with people outside of their own household and / or support Bubble. This is essential to prevent the spread of this virus, ensure safety and support us to keep our school open for our pupils.

<https://www.preston.gov.uk/article/2915/FAQ-on-local-restrictions-what-you-can-and-can-t-do-in-Preston>

You are advised not to share a car with those outside your household or support bubble, and to use public transport for essential journeys instead.

You must not visit anyone's home either within or out of the restricted area except for your support bubble.

Bubble Arrival and Exit times, Social Distancing and parking

It is 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 rather than waiting to wave pupil in- This is for everyone's safety**
- Pupils are not permitted to play on the equipment before or after school

Admissions September 2020

Do you have a child due to start school in September 2021? Or do you know someone who has?

The application for school places is now open and can be found on the Lancashire County Council Website

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place>

Choosing the right school for your child is of great importance and we understand the value of finding the right environment for your child. As you would expect, safety is of paramount importance to us and to this end we are not able to hold our traditional 'Open Evening'.

We will be holding a block of 'Open Days' w/c 9th November 2020. We will be offering bookable slots in a Covid secure environment outside of school hours. All visits will be strictly by appointment only and appointments will be offered from 4.00 - 5.30 pm. Should you require any additional information or to book an appointment please feel free to contact myself or Mrs. Lofthouse

Big School Adventures....Coming soon

We have already received enquiries about our popular 'Big School Adventure' sessions which typically run every Thursday from October. Once again, given the challenges we face with Covid and the restrictions we have reviewed and evaluated the service we provide for the safety and wellbeing of all.

It is our hope that these sessions will begin after half term and full details will follow in due course. The sessions will be booked in advance and will, of course have strict risk

assessments and additional measures in place. Exciting 'Forest School', sports opportunities and 'outdoor explorer' elements will be offered and we look forward to sharing our plans with you soon.

School Council

Would you like to be a Member of the School Council this year? If so it's time to get thinking as the Hustings process begins next week. Throughout the week pupils will be given the opportunity to prepare posters, speeches etc. and share these within their class bubbles. Each Class Bubble will elect two members to form our Council and join the House Captains in supporting our school with ideas, thoughts and plans for St. Mary's.

Although the School Council may not be able to be together as a group just yet they will be a fantastic team and I look forward to sharing with you our Winner on our next Newsletter!! Voting will take place on Thursday 1st October with Council Members announced on Friday 2nd October.

PJ Day - £1.00 to School Funds – 2.10.20

On Friday 2nd October 2020 pupils and staff are invited to wear their 'PJ's and donate £1.00 to School funds.

Free School Meals – Absence from school due to COVID-19

If your child is absent from school due to COVID-19, and they are currently eligible for free schools meals based on the household income, the school kitchen will be able to provide a packed lunch for your child. You will need to request this by contacting the school office by 9.30 a.m. each morning a lunch is required. You will need to make arrangements for the lunch to be collected at 11.30 a.m. from outside the school entrance.

	<u>E.A.T Award</u> <u>Explore. Be Active and Think creatively</u>	<u>Achievement Award</u>
Class 1	Atonio	Joey
Class 2	Lillianna	Harry D
Class 3	Penny	Tymon
Class 4	Megan	Calvin

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!”

