



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

**Newsletter – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020**

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Head Teacher: Mrs. A. Brogden



*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 half term in school and I am sure everyone is ready for a rest and some family time. I would like to thank you for your continued support in what are unusual, changing and challenging times.

I am incredibly proud of the pupils, how they have adapted, accepted new routines and made school a happy place of learning once more. I would like to thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Without working together we would not be able to continue to keep school open as we have. Finally I would like to thank the staff for all they have done to make school safe - all the extra cleaning, planning and adaptations. Once more everyone has pulled together as a team.

Obviously we have had to close our Class 3 Bubble in the last week, but I am very proud of the wonderful work that continues to take place at home and I know the staff love to receive the emails and examples of the work. We will always make safety and wellbeing our first priority and this will continue to drive all the decisions we make in school. As always, whether you are in school or working at home we are here to help in anyone way we can just email or call us at any point.

I know some families chose to receive one of our Harvest Hampers and I hope these will provide support over the half term break. Should you feel you would like any additional support with food you can access 'Share -It' based at Holy Family Church, The Pantry at INTACT and we have been advised that Evans Fish and Chip shop is offering community support with free children's meals between 11am and 2pm each day of half term.

I wish you all a restful half term break and we will look forward to welcoming you back soon.

## **Chairs of Governors Note: Mrs Shoulder**

Mr. Oakes, our Chair of Governors, shares below a note in regard to some news shared by Mrs. Shoulder.

*Dear parents - just a short note to let you know that our Deputy Head, Mrs Donna Shoulder, has been successful in being appointed as Head Teacher at St Bernadette's Catholic Primary school in Lancaster. This is a tremendous opportunity and we wish her every success.*

*Mrs Shoulder will start her new role in January 2021 so nothing will be changing immediately. We have already commenced activity on a replacement and will communicate further on this in due course. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Brogden.*

I am sure you will join us in sending our Congratulations to Mrs. Shoulder and, as ever, as we move forward we will keep you fully informed.

## **Extra Curricular Clubs- BUBBLE CLUBS**

The Bubble sports clubs will begin after half term as we have shared with you on previous letters. In order to attend pupils must have communicated their intention to join via a parental email to their Class Teacher. It will not be possible to just turn up. We would need to have advance information for our risk assessments, track and trace purposes etc. Bubble clubs are offered ONLY to one class Bubbles and other pupils/ siblings cannot attend a different club.

**As I have shared previously After school club and Before school club remain CLOSED until further notice.**

## **Big School Adventures begins 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Our First Big School Adventures session will run from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of November from 1.15 -3.15 pm. As ever, safety is of paramount importance so pre booking for the session is essential and numbers will be strictly limited.

We would ask that pupils bring wellies, a waterproof suit in a carrier bag and wear suitable clothing for sports activities ( e.g. track suit, trainers) .

The first hour of the session will be led by a professional coach who specialises in Pre-School and Early Years sports activities. The second session pupils will be 'Outdoor Explorers' and complete Forest School type activities.

Big School Adventure children will be greeted by a staff member, supported to wash their hands and brought through to the classroom for the fun to begin!!

To book a place or for more details please contact us on 01772 729881

## **Lunches and Snacks**

School continues to offer two choices of lunches every day, full menus can be found on the school website on the home page (link to the Menus are on the left hand side).

For break time snacks it is school policy that pupils have a healthy snack only, such as a piece of fruit. Chocolate and crisps are **not** permitted.

For Packed lunches brought in from home, school policy is that lunches are healthy and balanced. Pupils should not have fizzy pop and/ or large chocolate bar and / or packets of sweets. Thank you for continuing to work in partnership.

## **Important Safety Advice**

We have asked families NOT to allow pupils to play on the grassed area in front of Church. This is out of respect given the fact the Nuns may be in prayer and to ensure pupils do not cross Bubbles.

- 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's 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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

Why not check out or share our Virtual Tour on the school Homepage.  
<https://www.lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk>

	<b><u>E.A.T Award</u></b> <b><u>Explore. Be Active and Think creatively</u></b>	<b><u>Achievement Award</u></b>
Class 1	Jimmy Skeffington	Isabella Bolton-Rigby
Class 2	Ella Jackson	Orlaith Knott
Class 3	Alfie Shaw	Alythia McKeever
Class 4	Jensen Swann	Luke Moyes

*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!”

