



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 12th March 2021

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

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we end a lovely first week back together at school we are sending our best wishes to all the Mums, Grandmas and Aunts for a lovely Mother's Day this Sunday.

Return to School

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school this week and as ever the children have made us incredibly proud. They have been enthusiastic, engaged and cooperated brilliantly with our safety adaptations and our 'tweaked' routines.

I would like to also thank all our families for your cooperation with staggered start and finish times, the wearing of face coverings and for working in partnership to keep us all safe. I am very grateful of your support.

It is clear they are happy to be back with their friends and teachers as a school family once more....

" I really like seeing all my friends and playing with them. I like seeing my teachers and the new things we have. I like playing with our mini beast role play area too! I feel happy and excited to be back" Darcey Chambers, Class 1

" We feel really happy to be back with all our friends and teachers. We feel warm and cosy inside!" Rosie Robinson and Elliott Williams, Class 2

" The thing we enjoyed about coming back is seeing our friends, we were a bit nervous as it was different but now we feel normal and our school is the same as it always was" Jaiden Connell and Jonah Hurtault, Class 3

"Class 4 are happy to be back in the classroom. They are especially looking forward to getting to know their new teacher Miss Crosby and are enjoying seeing their friends and getting back to normality" Class 4

Lenten Activities

Our Lenten Charity this year is Lancashire MIND. We have all talked about how it is important to keep our bodies healthy and to keep our MIND healthy too!! In the midst of such challenging and unprecedented times we felt it would be great to support this local charity. This local charity help many people locally who may be struggling. Any donations you can give will be gratefully received.

The link can be found on the Lenten Planner on our website and below

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/matthew-taylor107>

Next week.....	
Wednesday 17 th March	St. Patricks Day Wear your own clothes- Something Green - to help celebrate St. Patricks day £1.00 which will be given to MIND
Friday 19 th March	Write and share your own prayer or Acrostic poem.
Friday 26 th March	Design an 'Easter Hat' competition £1.00 PER ENTRY - monies raised to MIND. To help keep everyone safe pupils are asked to bring their entries in on Friday 26 th March only. Please bring it in a carrier bag. They will share their hats within their Bubbles and each Bubble will have a prize!!! Look out for the wining designs on our Newsletter!!

Bubble Clubs 3.15 – 4.00 p.m.

Bubble clubs resume next week. Places must have been booked in advance.

Monday: Football- Bubble 4 (Year 5/6)

Tuesday: Dance - Bubble 1 (Year R/1)

Wednesday: Hockey- Bubble 3 (Year 3/4)

Thursday: Gymnastics Bubble 2 (Year 1/2)

**** Please note in order to keep everyone safe it is NOT possible to cross Bubbles so your child may only attend the club specific to their class****

Big School Adventures

Big School adventures will resume on 18.3.21 with all the rigid safety measures in place as previously. Number are strictly limited and places must be pre booked. Should you require any further information or to book a place please call 01772 729881.

Easter Raffle



- Following on from the success of our VIRTUAL Christmas Raffle
- we will hold an Easter VIRTUAL raffle with lots of lovely chocolate prizes!!
 - Tickets are on sale from Monday 15th March priced £1.00 per ticket. All monies raised go to MIND
 - Please send monies in a sealed labelled envelope marked EASTER RAFFLE with your child's name and number of tickets required.

Good bye and Good luck to Mrs. Thompson

I am sure you will all join me in saying a special Good Bye and Good Luck to Mrs. Thompson as she leaves St. Mary's school to undertake a new role as a Care worker. We wish her every success in her new venture. We will miss her big smile and of course her delicious food!

We welcome Mrs. Gavin to our kitchen and we hope she will enjoy being part of our School family!

Lateral Flow Testing for households, Support Bubbles and Childcare Bubbles of Pupils and Staff

As I am sure you will be aware the Government have a testing system in place within schools. At present within Primary Schools only staff have been invited to engage with twice weekly Lateral Flow Testing (LFT). From 1st March the Government are extending the testing to families of Primary aged pupils. For full details see the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- *through your employer if they offer testing to employees*
- *at a local test site*
- *by collecting a home test kit from a test site*
- *by ordering a home test kit online*

At present, as a school, we do not have any facilities to provide kits to families.

** PLEASE NOTE - LFT tests (Lateral Flow Tests) do not replace the need for a PCR tests (polymerase chain reaction) test and should your child or a member of the household or Bubbles develop symptoms families must still isolate and seek a test **

Reading Books in School

We have worked hard to ensure the items transferred between home and school are minimal to help reduce the transmission of the virus. Changes such as online newsletters, no school bags etc. being a few of the measures taken to date. We know that pupils, especially our younger pupils, have missed having a physical book so from the second week back w.c. 15.3.21 we will trial physical reading books in Key Stage 1.

In order to keep everyone safe we will have a number of measures in place.

- Books must be returned on a Monday morning **ONLY**
- Staff will collect these books in a box (which will then quarantine before being put back into our reading stocks for future use)
- New books will be issued the same day (these will have been in quarantine for the appropriate amount of time)
- Pupils will return books and receive a new book each **MONDAY ONLY**.
- Staff will keep a record of the books issued.

In order to keep everyone safe we will be unable to offer any exception to this procedure. Should you forget to return a book on the Monday pupils would have to keep that book until the following Monday.

We thank you for your continued support and understanding. As ever, we will continue to review our procedures in line with guidance.

Parking

Please could we remind families not to park on the Church grounds and to park at the Smiths Arms and walk down to school. Thank you for your continued support.

Celebrations Awards

	Achievement Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, think creatively
Class 1	Maxwell Houlding	Isaac Aya
Class 2	Leos Koutsokostas	Jake Skeffington
Class 3	Alfie Shaw	Leah Whitehead
Class 4	Isaac Davis-Hutchinson	Millie Yates

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!”

