



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

**Newsletter – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

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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,

I hope you all managed to enjoy the longer weekend despite the poor weather on Monday. Fortunately we have ended the week with some sunshine and lots of busy learning. All classes are now set up with the See Saw App so we can share the learning in the Classrooms with you and we hope you enjoy seeing the learning and creativity whilst we are unable to welcome you in.

Next week I shall be away from school for a few days as my own son has surgery. I know that Mr. Taylor and the School Team will be available should you need any further assistance.

## **Parent Governor Elections**

As per letter, voting closes on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon. After this point votes will be counted and the result will be shared.

## **Reading in School and issuing of Reading Books – Key Stage 2**

As we have successfully trialled reintroducing readings books in Key Stage 1, we would now like to extend this to Key Stage 2.

Pupils are asked to bring books into school each Monday morning and the books will be collected and quarantined and new book will be issued. **Books can ONLY be returned and issued on a Monday**, so, if your child forgets to bring their book, they will need to wait until the following Monday. I ask for your continued support to ensure we are taking all steps to prevent the transmission of the Virus. We will continue to evaluate and monitor this.

We appreciate that as pupils select longer texts/ novels in Key stage two they may not wish to change them weekly.

We would expect that pupils in Class 1 and 2 read for 10/15 minutes each night and pupils in classes 3 and 4 would read for 20 minutes per night, sometimes to a family members and sometimes independently.

## **Homework**

We continue to work hard in school to support pupils to close the gaps following the extended periods of learning spent remotely. Homework set is linked closely to the needs of the pupils within each class and we strongly ask that you support pupils in completing this.

**Reading:** Pupils are asked to read daily as detailed above, KS1: for 10/15 minutes and KS2: 20 mins

**Weekly Spellings:** Lists of weekly spellings are issued and tested. The focus is upon understanding and applying a spelling rule rather than just learning lists of spellings.

**Reading Comprehension:** A weekly comprehension sheet will be issued

**Maths:** A weekly Maths focused activity will be issued. Pupils in KS2 are encouraged to engage with 'Times Tables Rockstars'.

For further information, please contact your child's Teacher(s) and/or look at the information on the pupil's pages on our school website.

## **Marian Service – Coming soon - 21.5.21**

As many of you will be aware, each year we hold a Marian Service a 'Mary' Service as May is the Month of Mary, The Patron Saint of our school.

Typically we would have asked for donations of cut flowers to display around our statue of Mary in the hall and would have a May Procession across to Church. We would crown Mary with the oldest and youngest pupils in school taking this special honour. This year, in line with current restrictions, we are having to be a little creative, so we will have a Service within school in our own Bubbles.

All Children are invited to wear blue for Mary on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> of May.

Each class will create art work and will take part in a procession around the school field, ending at what will be our new Prayer Garden. We wanted to create a permanent celebration of faith after all we have been through, so we will be developing a prayer space. We have ordered a beautiful outdoor statue of Mary and are really hoping this arrives in time.

**We would like, this year, to ask for donations of plants and bulbs instead of cut flowers and some willing gardeners to help us!** We would ask for donations of plants from Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May so that these can be planted on this special day.

## **Parents Day Sessions**

Typically 'Parents Evening' would be offered in the autumn and spring terms, with a school report issued in the summer term. As these are unprecedented times we would like to

provide you with an update as to how your child is settling and progressing since our return to school post 'Lockdown' both academically and emotionally.

We are delighted to offer telephone Parents slots again w/c 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Five minute slots will be available all morning with each class allocated a certain day. Please call school to book these with Mrs. Lofthouse. I do encourage you to take advantage of this valuable opportunity.

Class 1 : Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May

Class 2: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May

Class 3: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Class 4: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May

### **Warmer weather**

As we are blessed with the sunshine we advise that pupils may wish to bring a sun hat into school which can be worn at play and lunch times. Please ensure this is labelled clearly with your child's name.

Pupils are encouraged, as always, to bring in a drink and will have access to this throughout the school day. Drinks bottles must have sports caps and must only contain water.

**Cordial, juices or flavoured water is not permitted!**

If you wish for your child to bring in their own sun cream they must have completed the separate form and the sun cream will remain in school and be stored within their personal trays. Again, to ensure we are working in line with policy and minimising the spread of Coronavirus, sun creams are for individual use only and must be labelled with your child's name and class. Thank you for working with us.

### **School Dinners**

From Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 it will be necessary to increase the cost of our school meals from £2.20 per day to £2.35. We have not increased the cost of meals for a considerable time and as the rising costs are passed on to us this small increase is unavoidable. Pupils in Key Stage 1 (Years - Reception, One and Two) will continue to be entitled to a daily Universal Free School meal as will pupils eligible for Free School meals

### **Vacancy – Cleaner 20 Hours Per Week**

We are looking for an experienced cleaner to join our school team from June. If you would like a copy of the job description and/ or further information please contact Mrs. Lofthouse.

### **Holy Communion**

Please see below information, re: Holy Communion from the St. Andrew and Blessed George Haydock newsletter.

*First Holy Communion The preparation program for the children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in March 2020 will recommence on Thursday 6th May from 6pm to 7pm. If your child is currently in Year 3, and wishes to be included in the next First Holy Communion preparation group please email Ela Wort for an application form [svp@standrewscottam.org.uk](mailto:svp@standrewscottam.org.uk)*

## **Big School Adventures**

Big School adventures takes place every Thursday from 1.15 -3.15 pm with rigid safety measures in place as previously.

**Numbers are strictly limited and places must be pre booked each week.**

Have a look at our weekly activities which can be found under the Pupils tab of our school website!!

Should you require any further information or to book a place please call 01772 729881.

## **Uniform and PE Kits**

As we settle back in to school please help us to look as smart as ever by wearing full school uniform. Hair accessories, bobbles, headbands etc. must be small and in school colours only. Trainers may not be worn as uniform and are only permitted for lunchtimes and/ or outdoor PE sessions.

For outdoor PE lessons pupils may wear Navy Zip up tops and/or jogging bottoms. These should be plain and free from large logos.

## **Celebrations Awards**

	<b>Achievement Award Winner</b>	<b>'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, think creatively</b>	<b>Welfare Award Winner</b>
Class 1	Isla Pennington	Freddie Reid	Jamie Bass
Class 2	Agatha Holmes	Joseph O'Donnell	Tommy Holland-Bass
Class 3	Jaiden Connell	Elliott Capper	James Picking
Class 4	Riley Falconer	Megan Southworth	Sebastian King

*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!"*



