



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 18th June 2021

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

Dear Parent/Carer,

An Action packed week in school yet again and, as ever, at this time of year the diary begins to get very full with the many summer events- sports, celebrations etc.

I am sure many of you will have watched the Government announcement on Monday 14th June and considered the impact this has on both school and home life.

It is the Governments decision that we will pause at Step 3 of the Road Map out of lockdown until at least the 19th July. The Department for Education (DFE) advises Schools that all current protective measures (Class Bubbles, limiting the number of visitors to site and adhering to number restrictions etc.) must remain in place. This is particularly relevant as Lancashire is an area of enhanced response. Every school has their own rigorous Risk Assessments and must reflect upon how the guidance applies in their setting. What works for one school will not necessarily work for another and, as such, we make decisions at a school level that are driven by the safety and wellbeing of everyone.

I ask for your continued support and co-operation. As you will appreciate a great deal of thought and consideration has gone into ensuring our pupils do not miss out on experiences and that we can deliver these alternatives in a Covid secure way.

I have detailed below how this impacts on some of the 'celebrations and traditions that we would typically hold at this time of year.

○ **Sports Day**

This is a tradition at the end of the Summer term in which every class takes part in a variety of sporting events - field and track, usually with family members invited to spectate. In line with guidance and restrictions (30 outdoors) it will not be possible to invite families this year. All Pupils will still get the opportunity to enjoy a 'Bubble Sports Day' and we will share videos and pictures via the See Saw App. Our planned Sports day for pupils (weather permitting) will be Thursday 8th July.

○ **Year 6 Leavers Production/ Awards Evening**

Usually our Year 6 pupils would perform a Summer Production and this would be followed by an Awards Evening. We are bound by the rule of 6 indoors and 30 outdoors and as such this will not be possible. We have had to 'Think Outside The Box' and have worked hard as a staff team to come up with an alternative which will still enable Year 6 Pupils to have special memories. Year 6 will have an afternoon tea, outdoors to which their families will attend, in small, separate groups and trophies will be awarded. The Year 6 pupils and their families will soon receive individual invitations.

○ **Induction Evening – New Reception Parents**

Again, given the restrictions this event cannot take place indoors and an alternative plan is in place. All new Reception parents have received an individual invitation.

○ **Breakfast Clubs and After School Club.**

We are still required and advised by both the Government guidance and DFE guidance that we must continue with all current measures such as Bubbles and number restrictions. It therefore will not be possible to resume these provisions at present. I recognise this can provide additional challenges for families and that other, larger schools may be able to offer these extensions to the school day. As a small school we simply do not have the staffing levels to make this possible once more we will update you as to our future plans.

Blessing of the Garden of Prayer and Friendship



Today Deacon John came to bless the 'Garden of Prayer and Friendship' and our new Mary statue. He read prayers, led a blessing and blessed the area with Holy Water.

" Today at St. Mary's Deacon John paid a visit and Class 4 had the opportunity to stand around the Mary statue and watch as Deacon John Blessed the Garden of Prayer and Friendship" George Stevens, Class 4

Uniform

In order to provide you with very early information our School uniform will be changing from September 2022. Over the coming weeks and months I will keep you fully updated and share with you samples of what our new uniform will be like. It is my intention to ensure we have one clear, consistent uniform creating a smarter image for St. Mary's school. This in turn creates a sense of pride and promotes the high expectations for our Pupils. At the moment pupils should continue to wear the uniform as detailed on our website and should be in Summer uniform.

Pupils are reminded that long hair should be tied back and hair accessories must be small and in school colours only. **Trainers are not permitted unless individual permission has been sought (e.g. a temporary measure on medical grounds).**

At this point of the school year ALL pupils should be wearing Summer uniform

Holy Communion

Next Thursday a group of pupils from Class 3 will make their First Holy Communion. We remember them and send our love and prayers on this special day. They will celebrate in school with a 'Bubble' Party.

We pray for ; *Finnley Foxall- Holmes, Jonah Hurtault, Penny Robinson, Chloe Moore, Olivia Leigh, Isla Kilshaw, Jack Spickett and Byron Chambers.*

Class 4 Fundraising...Coming soon.....

From Monday 21st June

Guess the Teddy 50p per guess on sale all next week- Thank you to Hannah, Jensen and Sebastian for co coordinating this.

Guess the number of sweets in the jar 50p per guess!

Big School Adventures

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

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

***** No additional places will be available when Transition sessions take place - Please ask for further information ******

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.

Dates for your diary:

- Thursday 24th June - 'Forest School' Volunteer day - clearing of old space
- Friday 25th June - Non Uniform day - Wear 'forest' colours or dress as a woodland animal £1.00
- Monday 28th June - World Faiths Week - Islam
- Friday 2nd July - Sponsored Fun Run - Sponsor form has been sent out

Celebrations Awards

	Achievement Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, think creatively	Welfare Award Winner
Class 1	Jack Moyes	Dougie Pye	Maxwell Houlding
Class 2	Freddie Pye	Annie Nelson	Ella Jackson
Class 3	Oliver Hooper	Jonah Hurtault	Dante Lewis
Class 4	Chloe Gildea	Jessica Eland	Calvin Maduka

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!”

