



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 16th July 2021

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

Dear Parent/Carer,

We reach the end of our school year, after what has been an exceptional and challenging period and, as we do so, the restrictions that have been imposed for so many months prepare to relax nationally on Monday 19th July.

Firstly may I thank our wonderful pupils who, as ever, have accepted and adapted to all the changes in place big and small. They continue to make us proud and have impressed us with their positive attitudes. I thank you, our families for your ongoing support and co-operation -from the staggered start times to the wearing of face coverings. We have worked in partnership to ensure we keep everyone safe.

Finally I must thank the staff who have worked above and beyond, both with remote learning and face to face learning, ensuring pupils have all the experiences and enrichment opportunities they deserve in a safe and welcoming environment.

From September we expect to look a little more like we used to. I appreciate that many changes can bring mixed feelings amongst adults and children alike. For some a sense of joy that we return to a more relaxed 'normal' way of life.....no statutory requirement for face coverings, no Bubbles etc. but, equally for others it can bring a sense of anxiety as the virus remains.

At the end of this newsletter you will find a Frequently Asked Questions Guide which I hope will be useful.

We will still maintain hygiene, cleaning and ventilation measures and as ever, review local contingency measures. Please be assured that we will carefully consider all guidance and do what is right for our school and changes will be made carefully and sensitively.

Year 6 Leavers

We celebrate our Year 6 pupils who prepare to begin their transition to High School. They have demonstrated great strength and positivity despite a challenging final primary school year. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved during their time at St. Mary's and the wonderful young people they have grown to be.

We send our love and prayers to.....

Cherry Davis, Isaac Davis Hutchinson, Riley Falconer, Hannah Griffiths, Olivia Halliday, Evie Holland-Bass, Rachel Kennedy, Calvin Maduka, Alexander McKeever, Max Scudamore, Owen Skeffington, Megan Southworth, Luna Taylor Price, and Millie Yates.

We also send our goodbye wishes to Miss Crosby and wish her well in her new role. We thank her for being a part of our school family. We say goodbye and good luck to Rosie Robinson, Class 2.

I ask for your prayers for a successful operation and quick recovery to Mrs. Lofthouse. She will not be with us in September as she recovers and we look forward to welcoming her back as soon as she is fit and well.

Canon Adrian Shares with us this final Prayer...

*Heavenly Father,
We thank you as we come to the end of another school year. We pray we will
be safe during the holidays and return refreshed and renewed.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

The John Rider Bisby Community Award

This year the Award for the John Rider Bisby Award goes to Eden Heslop, Class 2. Eden is a very worth winner as she grew her hair over lockdown and then took part in a Reverse Rapunzel Challenge...cutting off her hair to donate it to the Little Princess Trust. Eden raised a huge amount of money for Cancer Research too!! Well done Eden we are very proud of you!

Platinum Stars

Our final winners of this Academic Year are announced and have been celebrated today. A special well done to these wonderful ambassadors of St. Mary's School.

Max Tidmarsh, Annie Nelson, Lillianna Conway, Joseph Green- Banks and Chloe Gildea

Summer Reading Bingo

Your child will have brought home a Summer Reading Challenge called Summer Bingo....We hope you enjoy this. Please bring this back in the Autumn term for your chance to Win prizes!!!

School Term Dates – Important!

Additional Holiday Tuesday 7th June see amended holiday list on our website – to mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee

Changes as we enter Step 4 of the Roadmap **Frequently Asked Questions**

Will Pupils be in Bubbles in September ?

No, In line with Department for Education (DFE) guidance 'Bubbles' will be removed from September. Pupils will be taught within their classes. Pupils will have lunches within key stages as previously.

The DFE advise that any decision to re -introduce 'Bubbles' would not be taken lightly and would be following local outbreaks or Local Authority/ DFE advice.

Will pupils have different start and finish times in September ?

From September we will return to one start and finish time. Pupils will begin their school day at 08.55 am prompt and our School ends at 3.15 pm.
Pupils will line up on the yard in a morning and be greeted by their Class Teachers.

Will Before and After School Clubs Resume ?

Yes. As Bubble restrictions are removed we are able to offer this once more.

Breakfast Club and After School Clubs will resume. Breakfast club takes place from 7.45 a.m. to 8.45 a.m. after which pupils will be taken to their classes.

After School Club – Late Pick up is from 3.15 p.m. -3.45 p.m. and the full session from 3.15 p.m. -5.30 p.m.

Booking forms have been issued and for more information please ask a staff member. Miss Harrison is the Breakfast and After School Club Manger should you require any further information.

Will I be asked to wear a Face covering ?

It will no longer be requirement to wear a face covering in line with Government advice. As with any relaxing of measures, risk assessments must be reviewed and considered regularly. In the event of a local outbreak we may ask families/ staff to resume this measure and as always will communicate this with you in due course.

Should Families or staff choose to continue to wear a face covering they are welcome to do so.

Will my child wear a Face covering on the School Bus ?

Yes- The current DFE guidance states pupils should continue to wear face coverings on 'Dedicated transport services' so it would be our recommendation that pupils should do so on the shared School bus service.

Will Classes have to Isolate if a Positive case is detected ?

From 19th of July Track and Trace will taking over contact tracing- But as you can understand as a School we will still have to be fully informed in order to keep everyone as safe as possible and prevent outbreaks/ spread.

On and after the **16th of August** children under the age of 18 and adults who are fully Vaccinated (have received both vaccinations) will no longer be required to isolate for 10 days if they are contacted by Track and Trace as a close contact of a positive Covid -19 case. Instead they will be asked to take a Polymerase chain Reaction PCR test (a Polymerase test at a Test centre). We would ask that the 'Close contact' continues to Isolate whilst they await the result of the PCR. If the close contact returns as Negative result they may return to school without completing the Isolation period

If Track and Trace are leading on Close Contact do I even need to tell School ?

Yes - As you will appreciate we will still need to be fully informed so we can ensure the safety of all in school.

We would ask you to still inform us if your child or a member of your household is Symptomatic, have tested positive on a LFT or a PCR test.

Track and Trace will work with guardians to help you 'identify' close contacts. As a school we need to support you with this as you will not know names and details or all contacts in school and particularly for our youngest people they may not be able to remember all everyone they have interacted with. As a School we cannot give personal details of other pupils/ families out in line with GDPR rules but can support you in other ways. If a Close Contact is missed this could lead to outbreaks and spread which ultimately would lead to class closures and possible school closures which of course we all want to avoid!

If in doubt please always call school and speak to a staff member for advice!

My Child or a Member of our household is Symptomatic what should I do ?

Self Isolate and book a PCR test as soon as possible.

My child or a member of my Household had tested positive on a Lateral Flow Test LFT what should I do ?

Self Isolate, Book a confirmatory PCR test WHICH MUST BE WITHIN 2 DAYS.
If Negative resume normal activity. If Positive engage with Track and Trace and Self Isolate.

My child or a member of my Household had tested positive on a PCR test what should I do ?

Engage with Track and Trace the Positive person and all Close Contacts must Self Isolate.
If well enough the pupil can engage with remote learning.

Is this the end of all rules and changes for good ?

It is impossible to know as measures are relaxed nationally exactly what the impact will be. Sadly cases continue to rise and as people interact more socially and we move into Winter months measures will need to be continually reviewed.

Will Extra Curricular clubs resume ?

Yes- But we want to carefully risk Assess what is right for our school and make changes carefully and sensibly so we will communicate with you in regard to this in due course.

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).**

Please can we remind families that socks must be in school colours.

New Item..... 'Bang Bang' Uniform Suppliers now stock a navy PE Hoody priced at £14.99Perfect for outdoor PE sessions and as we move towards Forest Schools status. Also if you spend £40.00 at 'Bang Bang' on uniform you will receive 25% Discount!

Dates for your diary:

Monday 19th July - School finishes at 3.15 p.m.

Thursday 2nd September - School re-opens

Celebrations Awards

	Achievement Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, think creatively	Welfare Award Winner
Class 1	Atonio Qereqeretaua	Isla Pennington	William Barton
Class 2	Freddie Pye	Agatha Holmes	Noah Foxall-Holmes
Class 3	Finney Griffiths	Alfie Shaw	Georgia Purkis
Class 4	All of Class 4		

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!"

