



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 24th September 2021

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

Dear Parent/Carer,

Some lovely sunshine this week and lots of exciting learning has been taking place. Class 1 are enjoying learning about Traditional tales, Class 2 are busy learning about Penguins and Antarctica, Class 3 enjoyed a Zoom lesson and finally Class 4 reflected on creation!

It has been a challenging time for us as a school family this last week and indeed last weekend. I thank you sincerely for your support and recognition for all that the Team have done to keep everyone safe and ensure school is open for all pupils to learn! We have received some lovely messages of support and for that I am extremely grateful.

As a Catholic family we offer prayer in times of need or challenge. In our Zoom 'Celebration Assembly' we prayed for those school friends who are currently at home and wished them all a quick recovery.

" In God I put my trust and I have no fear" Psalm 56 v.4. We continue to do everything we can to ensure St. Mary's is a place in which we can ***"Have fun and enjoy learning"***!

We continue to work closely within school and with both our Local Authority and Public Health England to reduce transmission. We hope soon to see a marked reduction in the number of cases, so we may slowly open up our additional provision again (such as our clubs)

The current guidance does state that any 'Close Contacts' would have to seek a PCR test rather than whole classes isolate. We fully understand it is extremely upsetting that pupils have already missed chunks of school and we do not want them to miss more or be affected by Class / School closures. This is why it is vital we work in partnership and work quickly to contain cases. It is only by working together that we can make sure school stays open for face to face learning for all pupils.

School Council Hustings from 27th September – Voting on 1.10.21!

Could you be our next School Councillor??

Next week our Hustings process will take place and we are looking for you to think about why you would make a fantastic Councillor for your Class. Are you Kind?, Caring? Want to share your classmates ideas? If so.....It could be youWrite your speech, design a Vote for me poster or rosette and get sharing!!!

Breakfast Club and After School Club – Paused temporarily

Breakfast Club, After School Club and Extra Curricular clubs (Dance, Gymnastics etc.) remain temporarily paused upon the advice of Public Health England.

Any monies already paid will be held as a credit to be used once these clubs resume.

We shared we would aim to resume clubs after a two week 'circuit breaker' and considering current levels and with the cases we have also had today we will keep all clubs paused up to and including 1.10.21 so **will resume ALL clubs from 4.10.21**

Once again may I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and understanding As a working parent myself, I know how families can rely upon such provision and therefore fully recognise the inconvenience this can cause. As you will appreciate, safety must be the driver that shapes all the decisions we make.

Reading Books in school- Can you help us ???

A huge thank you to all who have been able to sponsor a Book so far. We are extremely grateful for your support. If you would like to Sponsor a form or have any family member, please ask for a form or send £5.00 into the School Office in an envelope indicating your child's name and class.

If you think your work place may consider sponsoring a 'Book Band' Please do get in touch- Book bands are priced from £79 to £150 depending on the amount of books in each colour band

Thank you, as ever for your support!

Uniform changes- An update

As I shared in the Summer term, I will be looking to make changes to our School Uniform. My main thinking/reasoning behind this is to ensure all pupils are consistent and that the uniform takes one fixed form with no variations. At present, we have quite a mis-match of shades, colours and styles which doesn't always mean we look as smart as we could. Some items are with logos, some without - some grey, some navy...some pleats, some straight-shorts, skorts and everything in between!

St .Mary's School is a very special school, and we want to present ourselves in the best possible way with pupils being proud to belong to our School Family.

I would like to look at a more traditional uniform and move away from the sweatshirt material to a traditional woollen jumper and cardigan with a shirt and tie. I always share that school and families are a partnership and this is how I want to continue to work.

Any changes or thoughts will be shared with all stakeholders - pupils, staff, families and Governors, to find the best possible uniform for St. Mary's Pupils which will be effective from September 2022.

I will soon share some samples and display these for your comments and thoughts. I have worked closely with our Uniform stockists to ensure costs WILL NOT be significantly higher or different to our present uniform items, with some even being less. We will offer support as we always do, with costs as required through many channels and payment plans etc. We will have items with logos - for example our jumpers and cardigans, as well as other items such as shirts that can be bought from supermarkets or other high street stores, so you as families can find the best value for money.

As ever, I will keep you fully updated as we move forward and any questions/queries are warmly welcomed.

Bang Bang Uniform – Stockists of all items.

Bang Bang Uniform suppliers are now able to deliver any school uniform items to school for collection, and you can simply pay over the phone. Bang Bang are the stockists of our staff and pupil hoody- pupil hoodies are priced at £14.99. All classes are welcome to wear these, and as we approach the winter months these are a great item for outdoor PE!!

They also stock all other uniform items as well such as Scouts, Beavers etc. and will deliver to school free of charge. Should you require this service, just ask in the office.

Reception places 2021

Do you have a child that is due to start Primary School in September 2022? Applications are now open. We will hold our Annual Open day on Tuesday 9th of November. To book a place for yourself or a friend/ family member simply call the School Office on 729881



Frequently Asked Questions

My child has Coronavirus symptoms what should I do?

Telephone the School Office to advise your child will not be attending as they are symptomatic and book a PCR test at a test centre. Once this result is returned share this with school via email. If the test is negative and the pupil remains well they may return to school.

If my Child demonstrated Coronavirus symptoms in school what will happen?

You will be contacted and advised you need to collect your child and book a PCR test. Your child will remain at home until they are fit and well and able to share their Negative result.

We do not have to isolate anymore do we?

Bubbles at school are removed and as such, if your child has been in contact with a positive person at school, the whole Bubble will no longer be required to isolate for 10 days. All 'Close Contacts' will be required to take a PCR test and, if this is negative, they may return to school.

NHS Track and Trace will work with families to identify 'Close Contacts'. I would strongly encourage you to liaise with school so we can support you with this and reduce the spread. As you will appreciate staff will be best placed to identify pupils who have sat together, played together etc. etc.

At present, as we are working with Public Health England myself or Mr. Taylor will call families of Direct Contacts to inform them they need to seek a PCR.

I have a box of Lateral Flow kits at home can I just use this?

No, you would have to have a PCR result

Someone in my household is positive. Can my child attend school?

We would require the pupil to seek a PCR test and share this result with school via email. If the pupil is negative please remember that this is a negative result at the point of the test and your child could still develop Coronavirus within the Isolation period. We would strongly encourage a daily Lateral Flow Test and ask families to reflect upon the risks to other pupils and staff within school. We want to work in partnership to ensure we keep each other safe and are grateful for your support.

Dates for your diary:

- Monday 27th September - School Council Election process
- Friday 1st October - School Council voting!
- Monday 4th October - Family and Individual photographs from 8.30 am
**** Pre-school Siblings slots must be booked ****
Tempest Photography

Celebrations Awards

	Achievement Award Winner	'EAT' Award Winner Explore, Active, think creatively	Welfare Award Winner
Class 1	Keon Bruney	Sandra Stec	Ava Capper
Class 2	Freddie Reid	Jamie Bass	Harry Shaw
Class 3	Georgia Purkis	Tymon Niezgoda	Eden Heslop
Class 4	Penny Robinson	Dane Lewis	Alfie Shaw

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!"



