

Newsletter

September 2020
Issue 2



Learning and caring for each other

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you to everyone who has returned their questionnaire about home internet connection and whether your child has access to devices (eg laptops, tablets, mobile phones etc.) which will enable them to access home learning.

eSafe Online Learning... During the lock down last term, we used our school VLE to provide learning opportunities because this was the safest method at the time. However, we now have Google Classroom and we have been very busy rolling it out across school and familiarising all our children with how to use it. Every child has their very own school email address to use to access their secure (eSafe), class online learning. If in the event we need to close a class bubble or your child needs to isolate, their learning will be provided via Google Classroom as well as your child having reading books, CGP Books and their regular spellings and homework books. To help you support your child access their online learning, we have produced a Parent Guide to Google Classroom. Please look out for the booklet which will be arriving home with your child on Friday 2nd October.

Places at St Mary's... we have had a few children leave St Mary's due to house moves and changes in circumstances. Some have moved as far away as the Derbyshire countryside and coastal North Wales. This means that we do have a few spaces in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 classes. If you know of anyone who would like to join us, please ask them to get in touch with us at school.

St Mary's Church Family Services... we are very fortunate to have Rev Helen Scanlan and Rev Liz Rowles visiting us in school regularly and leading Worship with our children. They also warmly invite you to join them at St Mary's Church for their services. The second Sunday each month is a family service and all children are welcome.

Governor News... welcome to Ms Jane Fleming who has joined our Governing Board as a Foundation Governor. Ms Fleming has had previous experience of governance NHS Psychotherapy, as a fitness and practise assessor, General Medical Council and Midwifery Council. I am sure she will be a great support. We also say a huge thank you and fond farewell to Ms Lindsey Robinson who has supported St Mary's on the Governing Board and on the PTA.

Harvest Festival... Unfortunately we are not able to hold our traditional service in our school hall as we have in the past. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, our annual Harvest Festival will be different this year. We intend holding our service of thanksgiving in St Mary's Church but sadly as gatherings are not permitted, only children will be able to attend and they will be in class bubbles rather than all together. The class bubble services will be held on Monday 12th and Wednesday 14th October. If you would like to make a donation as in the past, you are welcome to nominate a recipient, all other donations will be given to Re:Dish for sharing with those less fortunate. More information and details will follow on a separate letter.

Thank you to everyone... who has contacted school to ask questions and check COVID-19 expectations when their child has been feeling poorly. We are grateful for your care and consideration in checking for clarification if your child should be in school or isolating. By looking after each other in this way, we keep each other safe and well. Please keep us up to date with your email contact details so we are able to share important new information with you. Also, please check out the new 'COVID-19' area on our website for further information.

Sending our love, hopes and prayers for health and happiness.

Take care and stay safe,
Mrs Irvin and all the staff at St Mary's