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Welcome Back

We would like to say a huge welcome back to all of our pupils who have returned this year, along with a massive hello to our new pupils who have just started at St Mary's. These have definitely been strange times and we are working hard to ensure our pupils are kept safe and enjoy their learning as they move on their educational journey.

We are so proud of them all!



Test and Trace

23 September 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

This is an important letter to share some information on how we can work together to make sure we can continue to give children and young people the best education in the safest way possible.

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with Covid-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested.

Therefore, I ask that you all follow these principles:

- You should only book a test if your child has any of these three coronavirus symptoms:
 1. **a high temperature:** any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
 2. **a new continuous cough:** coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 3. **a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste:** a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal
- Your child **does not need a test** if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.
- If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/
- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

- If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and **only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.**
- If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate **does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.**

No one else in the same class or bubble as the symptomatic person needs to take any action unless advised by the school. Schools have detailed guidance and access to a Department for Education and Public Health England helpline for advice and support.

Contacts of a person who has tested positive must follow the guidance carefully and in full, which means they must stay at home for 14 days. This is because it can take several days following contact with an infected person before an individual develops symptoms or the virus can be detected. Students should only book a test if they get symptoms.

The NHS has produced some guidance to help parents understand when their child can and cannot attend school which you may find useful: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

It is vital for children's learning and future opportunities that they are able to return to school and college. It is therefore vitally important that all we work together and do our bit to make this possible.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Viv Bennett CBE

Chief Nurse and Director Maternity and Early Years | Public Health England

Head of World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Public Health Nursing and Midwifery

Follow me on Twitter: @VivJBennett

Dr Susan Hopkins

Interim Chief Medical Officer | NHS Test & Trace

Deputy Director | Public Health England

Consultant in Infectious Diseases & Microbiology
Royal Free, London

Bike to school week

We are taking part in Bike to School Week starting on Monday 28th September until Friday 2nd October.

Everybody is encouraged to bike, walk or scooter to school.

We will record these active school journeys and be entered into a prize draw.

Please see the poster for details and how your family can also join in the fun.



BREAKFAST CLUB

If you require a Breakfast Club slot for Monday please ensure this is booked by 2.00 p.m. every Friday.

We cannot guarantee a space if your child arrives for Breakfast Club and a slot has not been booked via Parentpay.

Please use the procedure below:-

- Login to Parentpay
- Click make a booking under the pupil's name
- Change make bookings for: to Breakfast
- Week commencing: select week
- Click make or view a booking
- Scroll down the page and click the date(s) required
- Click confirm bookings
- Follow procedure to pay in basket



Whole school attendance:

96.4%

Classes with highest attendance:

11 September

Year 1 and 5-100%

18 September

Year 5-100%

25 September

Reception – 98.47%



PE Kit

Please ensure your child has
a lightweight coat and
appropriate footwear for
their PE lesson



TERM DATES

Autumn Half Term
Inset Day
Last Day of Autumn Term
Spring Half Term
Inset Day
Good Friday (school closed)
Easter Holidays
May Bank Holiday
Spring Bank Holiday
Summer Half Term
Inset Day
Last day of Summer Term

26-30 October 2020
2 November 2020
18 December 2020
15-19 February 2021
22 February 2021
2 April 2021
5-16 April 2021
3 May 2021
31 May 2021
31 May-4 June 2021
7 June 2021
23 July 2021

Parking



If you are travelling by car to drop your child off in the school lay-by please take extra care and do not park on the pavements.

Our senior leadership team are available to help you drop off your child and make the process a safe one for everybody attending the school.

At the end of the day vehicles should not park in the lay-by, we need to create a safe zone for people leaving school and observe the 2 meter social distancing rule.