



St Mary's Together

Term 6 Week 1

Date 5th June 2020

St Mary's Together - We Need Your Support

Please can I ask again that parents/carers refrain from making direct contact via email with teaching staff at the current time. Please send all emails to the school office, where staff will deal with communications with parents/carers for the time being. If the office staff decide that a response from a different member of staff is required, they will forward the email to the relevant staff member.

I have taken the decision to change this operational procedure, as it is important that my staff be completely focused on their work in the classrooms, where they have to adjust to a significant number of operational changes that have been put in place to enable us to extend in-school provision safely to more children this term.

I appreciate that communication between children, parents/carers and the teaching staff was an important part of our work whilst we were running St Mary's at Home. I understand and acknowledge the upset on the part of some of our community that this support has been removed, especially those whose children have not been given the opportunity to return to school yet. However, this decision was not taken lightly or without consideration of what else we could do to maintain a channel of communication between home and school during term six. It was decided to use the existing school's Facebook page as a manageable way to maintain communication, share ideas and celebrate children's achievements.

Regretfully, it has come to my attention that a number of parents/carers have decided that they will not be engaging with the Facebook page in the positive way in which the school had hoped. I am aware that some parents/carers have continued to email the teachers, disregarding my requests for this not to continue, which unfortunately has caused some upset. I am also aware that a number of parents/carers within the community, who work as part of the school staff or Governing Body, have felt compromised over the course of the week by some of the discussions that have taken place within year group WhatsApp groups.

At a time when our school community is facing one of the most difficult challenges in its history, forced to divide in order to be able to take the steps required to unite once again, I ask everyone to look beyond their own personal situation to see the importance of the need for us to work together, now more than ever before, with a collective responsibility for the good of our school and its future.

St Mary's is a very special and strong community. Our community has been built over generations, for the good of generations to come. If we are not careful in our actions now and we allow this moment to divide us, when we do come back together again we may find that we have fractured our community. If we can trust and support each other at this time, our community will be strengthened and our ability to recover and continue to support all our children to successfully pray, learn, love and enjoy together again will be amazing.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and commitment to our school, our community and above all, to our children.

Liz Hills
(Acting Headteacher)

Individually we are each one colour,
together we make a rainbow.



St Mary's Together

Taken from this week's Gospel: Tenth Sunday of Ordinary Time —Year A

"I don't want your sacrifices; I want you to love and show mercy to other people."

~ Pray ~ Learn ~ Love ~ Enjoy ~

Keeping in Touch – Home and School – St Mary’s Together

In order to support our links between home and school at this time, the following arrangements have been put in place.

If you would like to contact a member of the school staff please email the school office. The office staff will either attend to your email themselves or will forward it to the relevant member of the school staff.

office@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk



If you would like to share your children’s work with us, we would be thrilled to see it. You can post it on the school’s Facebook page that is being carefully monitored by school staff daily. I have total confidence that all parents/carers will be responsible and respectful in their use of this site and will post positively at all times.

If you would like to share your children’s work with us but do not wish to use the Facebook page, we have opened up an email facility that will enable you to send work into the school. Each class has an email address (listed below) which they can send work to. Please note, all staff will have access to the class emails and a number of different staff have been deployed to monitor the emails on a weekly basis. Where possible, we will endeavour to respond to emails, but this may not always be possible.

Your co-operation with these arrangements for communicating with us is very important at this time.

Thank you.

Class	email
Reception	reception@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk
Year 1	Year1@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk
Year 2	Year2@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk
Year 3	Year3@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk
Year 4	Year4@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk
Year 5	Year5@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk
Year 6	Year6@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk



National Bike Week—get the nation cycling! 6th - 14th June

Bike Week 2020 is still taking place. The idea behind it is to encourage people to rethink their everyday journeys and switch to cycling as the most convenient way to get around. Can you get on your bike for seven days in a row between 6-14th June?

Cycling UK has come up with a week of fun digital activities. To access the resources visit:

<https://www.cyclinguk.org/bikeweek/7daysofcycling>



Tools for Schools

The Bikeability Trust has also been working on a new suite of resources to promote on-going cycling. These resources will be available over the summer in time for the Autumn term. We have attached with this newsletter a Just for fun! Family resource to help keep children occupied during lockdown.



Medicines

During the restricted provision we are asking all parents to carefully monitor your child/children's health. Please do not administer any medication that may mask a temperature, in these times and please err on the side of caution before bringing your child into school if you think your child is unwell. If your child has been prescribed medicines we will still be able to administer these, please see paragraph taken from the medicines policy—please see website for complete policy.



Prescribed Medicines

At St Mary's School we will only administer prescribed medicines, by either a doctor, dentist, nurse prescriber or pharmacist prescriber. The medicines should always be provided in the original container and include the prescribed instructions for administration.

The Medicine must be labelled as follows;

- *A Pharmacy label with their address*
- *The child's name*
- *The drug name*
- *Prescribed Dose*

Date of Issue

Medicines may only be administered to the person for whom they have been prescribed, labelled and supplied. Only the prescriber may vary the dose and directions for administration NOT the parent. The school will not accept any parental alteration to a prescribed dose of medicine.

*Medicines coming into school should **NOT** be in large quantities but **MUST** be in the original container.*

*The school will **never** accept medicines that have been taken out of the original container or make changes to dosages on parental instruction.*

It is recommended that a primary school child should never carry medicine to and from school, medicines must be handed over as soon as the child arrives at school.

Fruit at break time

Children may bring fruit into school for a snack if they wish to do so. At present the fruits for school (for key stage 1 children) has been suspended. We have not had confirmation of when this will return.



Just a Reminder

Children must not bring any belongings into school with them where possible; this includes pencil cases, book bags, etc. The only items children may need to bring into school are a lunchbox, mobile phone, jumper/coat, cap and sun cream (which they must be able to apply themselves or have applied before school) if it is very hot.

