



St Mary's Catholic Primary School School Bulletin

Friday 11th September 2020

SUBJECT	YEAR GROUPS RELEVANT TO	STAFF CONTACT
A MESSAGE TO YOU ALL	ALL	Liz Hills

We are back! St Mary's Catholic Primary School was finally back together after a long and difficult time apart and it was an absolute joy to have the school filled once more with the sound of learning, laughter and love. I am thrilled to announce that all the children who were able to be in school this week were there. This is quite an achievement and speaks loudly of the understanding the school community has of the importance of the school in the lives of the children and demonstrates clearly the commitment we all have to the children's education. Thank you to every parent, carer and child who came back to us this week – we have missed you all so much. Thank you as well for your patience and understanding as the school has worked hard to implement new practice and procedure across the school. We have had some teething problems but appreciate the support given to the school as we have worked through these this week. Unfortunately, as I know you are all well aware, the situation regarding the Covid19 response continues to change and impact on our lives. The school staff will continue to work hard, as the situation develops, to ensure we do all we can to keep our community as safe as possible. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated as we face the unknown together. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

ILLNESS	ALL	Liz Hills
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I have taken the decision not to share with you yet the guidance the school has received regarding what to do in the event of your child being unwell, as the guidance has continued to change over the course of the week and it is likely to continue to do so. Once I have had the opportunity to review the recent changes and how these will impact on our school, I will endeavour to provide you with some clarity regarding different scenarios. In the meantime, I feel the most effective way for the school to proceed in the event of a child being unwell is for parents/carers to make direct contact with the school office where staff will be able to ensure accurate and up to date advice is provided. If your child is displaying any of the symptoms of the coronavirus, please do not bring them to school – make contact with the school and seek our advice as to any action that must be taken. Thank you.

RECEPTION STARTING	ALL	Liz Hills
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I am thrilled to announce that our new reception children will be starting school from Monday 14th September. They will be starting in groups of ten over the course of the three days, with the whole class in together for a full school day on Thursday 17th September. Unfortunately, we have not been able to complete our usual transition programme with our reception children and their families this year and have not been able to welcome them to our school community in the special way we normal do. However, I have every confidence that you will all join with me in wishing all our new children (across the school) and their families a very warm welcome and that you will hold them in your prayers in the coming weeks.

BISHOP'S MESSAGE	ALL	Office Team
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Please check out the link below to see Bishop Richard Moth's message to schools at the start of this academic year.

<https://vimeo.com/454801861>



[Bishop Richard Moth's Message to Schools, Autumn Term 2020](#)

This is "Bishop Richard Moth's Message to Schools, Autumn Term 2020" by Diocese of Arundel & Brighton on Vimeo, the home for high quality videos...
vimeo.com

APPEAL FROM FATHER DOMINIC	ALL	Office team
<p>Fr. Dominic would like to say weekend masses but he can only do so if a volunteer cleaner is willing to wipe down a maximum of 30 chairs with a c19 cleaning spray. He can provide you with PPE and he suggests that 3 people form a team and 1 person cleans after each mass, sharing the task on a rota basis, once every 3 weeks. He thinks it should take no more than about 15 minutes. The instructions given by the Diocese require persons volunteering for this task to be under the age of 70. He would like to say a Saturday evening mass at 6pm (finishing at about 6.45pm when cleaning in an empty church can happen) and on Sunday morning a mass at 9.30am (therefore cleaning at about 10.20am). He would like to begin on the weekend of October 17th (Sat) and October 18th (Sun).</p> <p>If you are interested and available after the mass times, please let Fr. Dominic know on his e-mail address BEFORE Friday October 9th. dominic.ohara@abdiocese.org.uk Thank you very much.</p>		
SCHOOL MEALS	ALL	Office team
<p>Some parents have said that they have not received the school meals menu for this term. The menu was emailed to all parents with the final newsletter of term, sent on the 20th July. Unfortunately, no paper menus were printed by Chartwells this term. The menu is also available to be viewed on our school website https://www.stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk/ under the 'quick links' section. There is a temporary problem within ParentPay where the menu choices can no longer be seen for each day when booking meals. We are currently communicating with ParentPay to get this problem rectified as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience.</p> <p>Chartwells have also informed us they are only allowing meals to be booked one week ahead for the rest of this term. This is because of the possibility of changes in provision or meals / packed lunches at short notice or partial closures due to Covid outbreaks. Any meal bookings for each day must be made by 8.30am on the day of the booking. It is not possible to select menu choices through the Parentpay system, the children select their meal choices at morning registration.</p>		
SCHOOL UNIFORM BADGES	ALL	Office team
<p>The long-awaited order of our new supply of iron - on school uniform badges has now arrived. These badges can be attached to a plain pale blue polo top and/or a royal blue jumper/cardigan if you can source these from other retailers and offers a lower cost alternative to the embroidered items from the school's outfitter. Unfortunately, the cost of the badges has increased since our last order but we will keep the price at £1.50, until this supply runs out and we will have to review the price next time. If you require any badges, please call in to the school office. We can only accept cash for payment. Thank you</p>		
PHE – EVERY MIND MATTERS	ALL	Liz Hills
<p>Public Health England launches Every Mind Matters campaign</p> <p>Most families have experienced upheaval in their daily lives during the pandemic. With children and young people now back at school or college, the new Public Health England (PHE) Better Health – Every Mind Matters campaign provides NHS-endorsed tips and advice to help children and young people's mental wellbeing, and equip parents and carers with the knowledge to support them.</p> <p>The new advice available on the Every Mind Matters website has been developed in partnership with leading children and young people's mental health charities, including Young Minds, The Mix, Place2Be and The Anna Freud Centre. It is designed to help parents and carers spot the signs that children may be struggling with their mental health and support them, and also provides advice that can help maintain good mental wellbeing. The site also provides tools to help young people build resilience and equips them to look after their mental wellbeing.</p>		