



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School School Bulletin

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

SUBJECT	YEAR GROUPS RELEVANT TO	STAFF CONTACT
Reception Intake September 2021	Parents with Children due to Start School in September 2021	Office

As the Covid19 response continues we are going to have to make changes to the way we offer people with children due to start in Reception in September 2021, the opportunity to visit our school. Usually we host an open morning and open afternoon that includes a presentation from the Senior Leadership Team of the school and the opportunity to have a tour of the school, conducted by our Year Six Ambassadors. Unfortunately, in order to ensure we maintain as safe a site as possible, we will not be able to hold our open morning and afternoon as we had hoped. Instead, we will be offering very small group (adult only) tours of the school with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. The tours will be scheduled throughout November and will last approximately 30 minutes. During this time the children and staff will remain in their classrooms/learning spaces to ensure they do not come into contact with the visitors, who will be masked at all times and will not enter any classrooms or learning spaces. The tours will be very carefully managed to ensure the least disruption to the operation of the school and the children's learning, whilst at the same time, ensuring the school community is kept as safe as possible.

We know that for many of our existing parents/carers, attending the open morning/afternoon with their child due to start school has been important. However, this year we are asking that those parents/carers refrain from booking tours of the school in order to support us in limiting the number of visitors we have to the school as much as possible. If existing parents/carers have any questions/queries they wish to raise with the school prior to deciding on their school preference for September 2021, we ask that they contact the school office where a member of the office team will either be able to address the matter directly with them or will refer them to the most appropriate member of the school staff. Thank you for your support with this.

Tour dates will be published on the website next week and will need to be booked through the school office. If you know of any parents/carers who are considering St Mary's as a possible option for their child starting school in September 2021, please pass this information on to them.

Thank you.

Babies Crying is Normal	Parents/Carers with Babies	Safeguarding Team
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If you have a baby in the house you, and your family, may find the information at the following link useful:

<https://www.esscp.org.uk/icon-babies-cry-you-can-cope/>

Anyone who has had the joy of a baby in the family, also understands the frustrations a crying baby brings. Crying is completely normal, but if you are struggling to cope – don't stay silent. Reach out for support. There are people who can help you at this challenging time.

Application for Secondary schools	Year 6 - Very Important	Office
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The deadline for secondary school applications is fast approaching. **The final day is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.** Your child has brought home a leaflet today to remind you of the admissions process and there is a further guidance leaflet attached to this bulletin.

If you are having any difficulty applying online via this link

[https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/admissions/secondary\\_school/](https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/admissions/secondary_school/)

please contact the school office as soon as possible so that they can give you further guidance.

Please remember if you are applying for a secondary school in Kent, you must make your application via East Sussex admissions department.

The majority of secondary schools are generally oversubscribed and a late application may mean that you will not be allocated a school from your choices. Late applications are processed after the spaces have been allocated to the applicants made before the deadline.

If you are applying to a faith school, please ensure that you follow their requirements in terms of completing supplementary application forms and providing evidence of religion. If you have any queries at all the office staff will be pleased to help you.

School Photos	All	Office
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A reminder that the school photographer will be in school the first day after half term, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. If you want to have photos taken with siblings not already attending this school, you may bring them to the school hall from 8am, please enter via the hall door. Please only one family group is allowed inside the hall at one time. Please queue outside the hall and please socially distance from other family groups waiting. Please leave the hall via the hall door with your children and depending on the time either return to the top of the drive and allow your child/ren to enter school under the normal morning procedures. Siblings in school will be photographed together during the school day.

Harvest Collection	All	Office
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Thank you to everyone who has brought in offerings for our Harvest Collection. This year we have decided to offer our support locally and are collecting for a local food bank. We have extended our collection period until Monday in the hope that people will put one extra item in their shopping baskets this weekend, if they can, and generously donate it to our Harvest Collection. This is our second charitable act so far this academic year and we are very proud of our community for its generosity.

**FROM THE CROWBOROUGH FOODBANK WEBSITE URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD AND HYGIENE ITEMS**

- INSTANT MASH POTATO
- WASHING PODS/CAPSULES
- WASHING UP LIQUID
- NAPPIES SIZES 4/5/6
- TOOTHPASTE

A full list of food items can also be found there

<https://crowborough.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Thank you for your support and generosity.