



St Mary's Catholic Primary School School Bulletin

Friday 20th November 2020

SUBJECT	YEAR GROUPS RELEVANT TO	STAFF CONTACT
Human Kindness & Connection	All	Liz Hills
<p>As the Covid19 response continues to impact on all aspects of our lives and the wintery weather creeps in, it is understandably more difficult for many people to remain positive as they struggle with the challenges of everyday life and the uncertainty of what the future holds. These difficulties can easily and, in some cases, unexpectedly impact on our mental health and emotional wellbeing and that of our children.</p> <p>So, this week I would like to ask the St Mary's community to take some time to look carefully at those around them and see if there is anyone who could do with some support. The simple act of making connections with others at times such as this can make a significant and important difference. Sending a text message, making a call or a quick (socially distanced) chat on the Green can sometimes be enough to provide the support people need. Please take the time to extend the hand of human kindness to those around you this weekend and over the coming weeks. There will be those in our community for whom this will mean so much.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>		
Mental Health Support	All	Liz Hills
<p>If you or someone you know is struggling with maintaining a state of positive mental health or if you are worried about your own children's mental health and emotional wellbeing, please check out the support available at the following links or the resources that have been sent out with this bulletin.</p> <p>Mental Health UK https://mentalhealth-uk.org/help-and-information/covid-19-and-your-mental-health/</p> <p>Supporting children and young people with worries about COVID-19 – Document sent out with bulletin</p> <p>How to Maintain Good Mental Wellbeing during Isolation – Document sent out with bulletin</p>		
Flu vaccination	All	Office
<p>Thank you for returning the flu vaccination consent forms, these have now been collected by the NHS team. The spray vaccinations for all those pupils with permissions will be administered in school by the NHS Immunisation team on Monday 7th December.</p>		
FSM Crazy Hair Day	All	FSM Team
<p>The Friends of St Mary's have organised a 'Crazy Hair Day' on Friday 27th November (Poster attached to Bulletin). The whole school, including staff have been invited to take part. Normal School uniform please, but otherwise have fun with some crazy hair. Please be aware that whatever creation you come up with must be washed out of your hair in time for School the following Monday.</p> <p>If you wish to make a donation to the Friends of St Mary's, this will be gratefully appreciated (cash in an envelope on the day). No matter what, we encourage everyone to take part and have fun. We can't wait to see all your creations.</p>		
Virtual Home Safety Visits & FREE Smoke Alarms available from East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service	All	Office Team

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service is committed to keeping residents safe – this includes supporting families to reduce the risk of fire in the home, and how to respond to a fire in the unfortunate event that this occurs. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are able to offer virtual Home Safety Visits to families in East Sussex. This includes a telephone risk assessment where we can talk to you about the fire risk in your home, after which we may:

- Post you further information leaflets AND / OR
- Post you smoke alarms to fit yourself (if you don't have adequate working alarms) OR
- If the risk is high and no one in your home is able to fit a smoke alarm, we will take protective precautions and fit a smoke alarm for you in your home.

If you would like to find out more about a Home Safety Visit, you can either:

- Call us on **0800 177 7069**, or;
- Complete and return a [Home Safety Visit Request Form](#), which should be sent to Homefire.Safetyvisits@esfrs.org

You can also contact us on behalf of a friend or relative, but we ask that you get their permission first and let them know that we will ask them a number of questions.

A member of our Community Safety Team will then be in contact to arrange a suitable time for a telephone chat. We also have lots of information and tips on keeping safe at home on our website, including leaflets in different languages. Please click see <https://www.esfrs.org/your-safety/safer-homes/>, for further information.

The admissions process for children starting Primary School in September 2020	Parents/carers of children eligible to start school in September 2021	Office Team
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The booklet '[Apply for a school 2021-22](#)' is now available for parents to view or download from the East Sussex website where parents can also apply online via the Synergy Parent Portal. We no longer have hard copies of the booklet. The booklet is available online and includes a copy of the application form. If you or the applicant need assistance or forms posted out please contact admissions@eastsussex.gov.uk or 0300 330 9472. The closing date for primary school applications is **15 January 2021**. The majority of parents will receive an email notification to convey the outcome of their application. Those who did not apply online will still be sent a letter and these will be despatched from the East Sussex Admissions office on **16 April 2021**, the National Allocation date.

If you are applying for a place at St Marys and your application can be considered in one of the faith categories for admissions, you also need to complete our Supplementary information Form (SIF Form 2021/22) which can be found on our website. Our admissions policy lists the categories of priority for our oversubscription criteria. <https://www.stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk/admissions>
Please complete and return this to the school together with evidence of religion by 15th January 2021.

End of term Friday 18th December	All	Headteacher
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School will close to children at the earlier time of 1.30pm on Friday 18th December, the last day of term before the Christmas holidays. Please collect your children in the usual way at the earlier time.

If you have already given the school permission to allow your child/children to walk up the drive or walk home alone, this will be extended to include your child/children walking up the drive or walking home from school on Friday 18th December at 1.30 pm.

If you do not want your child/children to walk home on their own on this day as you have made alternative collection arrangements due to the earlier finish time, please contact the school office to inform them of the alternative arrangements you have made.