



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to each and every one of you. It has been great to see faces who have not been around for some time, both children and adults. Findings across the week are largely positive, so thank you. Please find a summary of positive news and next steps below.



- **Changing information and written communication**= A very small number of parents queried opening collection procedures. Please take the time to check the details on SMA Reopening letter No 7, which is also on the Home Page of the website and again, attached with this newsletter.
- **Grandparents - a huge thank you** for your willingness to follow our systems to safeguard and support the smooth entry of all children. Your patience and understanding, when rules have not always been fully shared with you, is greatly appreciated.
- **School laptop and reading book returns** We are still short of some borrowed laptops and chrome books. Please return these at your earliest convenience, as others in school need access to them. We also ask that ALL reading books from lockdown and before, be returned to school as soon as possible.
- **COVID vigilance** -Please remember not to send your child if you feel they are unwell. This protects others and reduces the spread of the virus
- **Dog owners - Thank you** for listening.
- **Attendance** has been fabulous, with 98% attendance across the school. (Not that you are all glad to see the back of Lockdown of course! ☺)
- **Social distancing** is difficult – I appreciate that roads and pavements can only accommodate so many parents waiting for children. As much as possible, we ask that parents keep their distance from each other, in line with COVID regulations. **Remember, 2m is approximately your outstretched arms span from fingertip to fingertip, minimally.**

### Site security – How to use the new gates :

**The vehicle gates** will be open from 8-9 am each morning and from 3.00-3.45pm each evening.

**The pedestrian gates** will be unlocked from 7.30am to accommodate Wraparound Club and until 5.15pm each evening. Just pull the gate, it will be unlocked. During working hours, all gates will be locked.

**Parents arriving/collecting children during school hours will need to walk down the Nursery path, buzz through using the green bell on the silver box on the right hand side of the pedestrian gates.**

Please do not push either gate to close them. They will automatically close in their own time.

## March updates and reminders -

**Confirmation March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.** – Please see attached letter for Track and Trace and sponsor form details. Please return Track and Trace to [pmailbox@st-maryangel.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:pmailbox@st-maryangel.walsall.sch.uk)

Father Craig has also agreed to live stream the Mass, for all those family members who cannot attend. Thank you, Father. You can access the live stream through the St Mary of the Angels Aldridge Facebook page.

Our **Walking for Water Lenten charity incentive** is rapidly growing. We now have a fantastic £200 already committed. Keep going everyone. Faith in action! Thank you very much.

**School Fund** since the start of January has now accrued £215. Once again, thank you for your generosity towards the “little extras” for children in school. Thank you to those who have donated generously.

**Homework Club** for invited children commences next Tuesday, for KS2 and next Thursday for KS1- 3.15-4pm (letter sent separately).

## And Finally ...

### What is LENT?

LENT IS THE 40 DAYS BEFORE EASTER. IT BEGINS THE DAY AFTER SHROVE TUESDAY (PANCAKE TUESDAY) AND ENDS ON PALM SUNDAY.



Christians celebrate LENT to remind them of the time Jesus fasted in the desert.

***“Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another”***