

St Mary's News 2020

Dear Parents,

Amended start times – Thanks to all parents and grandparents for the huge improvement in accessing school, via the differing gates. In almost all circumstances, parent are mindful of the risk to children and adults and respect the system. Please continue to maintain a safe social distance in these uncertain times. I have attached an amended timetable of classes and their start times. You are simply "victims of your own success". Children and staff have adapted to the staggered times efficiently and safely. It is, therefore, now safe to bring the start times closer together, as indicated on the Amended Start Time attachment.

Photographs - Today was a busy morning, but a great one, too. It is a privilege to watch so many lovely smiles in readiness for pictures for Mum and Dad. Our photographer has also taken some additional prints of action shots, for our newly painted corridors - these will be a pleasure for children to smile at, too. It was interesting to hear that our Tempest Photography representative said that we are the first of her schools to re-introduce the sibling shots. Our photographer shared that many schools consider it to be too much organisation and extra cleaning/supervision in these testing times. So, many thanks to our cleaners and additional supervisors. I am sure parents will be appreciative too.

Harvest offerings- It is great to hear that our Harvest offerings, via the school gateway, are now up to £134! 🙂 Please talk to your child about people who are homeless, and how a small offering from us can make two or three dinners for them. Please give generously between now and next week, via the school gateway, using the tab identified. All monies will go towards Fr Hudson's Homes (our local charity) and CAFOD (overseas). Many thanks in anticipation.

Reminders

Y4 Reconciliation and Holy Communion- The cake has been ordered; the readings are already given out; jobs have been assigned; the photographer is booked; track and trace is fully complete AND the weather promises to be dry. It looks like Y4 should have a fabulous day on Saturday. Thank you for the many lovely comments and notes that have been sent to staff supporting their efforts. I add my thanks to them, also. Your children are in very safe, very caring hands.

Communication with staff- I am aware that many parents now have personal email accounts of staff, as a result of the crisis we find ourselves in. Parents can also comment on their children's work on class pages, too. Can I remind all parents not to take advantage of these communications but to continue to use the school postbox email for all professional contacts, concerns, complaints or otherwise. This enables the office staff to copy the right member of staff into the right emails - and solves your concerns more readily. I have advised all staff to redirect all personal emails from parents to postbox. I have also advised all staff to apply the standard 7am-7pm rule and not to respond to any communications outside of these times. I am sure that you will agree with me on this one. Thank you, as always, for listening.

The school twitter account is back in use. Please see attached flyer. Mrs Hayes and Mrs Smith are planning an inhouse competition to see which class can have the most twitter followers. Watch this space...

Virtual P.E challenges – Look on your class pages to find the latest skipping challenges.

Coming soon ...

Democratic decision making linked to good behaviour- £5 awards went to Y1 and Y2 for resilience and Y6 for behaviour last week. Well done to these three classes.

Our Y5 Animal Man is due in school on the 21st October- we cannot wait to see him again.

Our Y4 will be leading our very first Class Mass- with a harvest theme, in school, on the 15th October- again we really look forward to it- a sign of a little more normality.

Our Y6 representatives – will be placing a Poppy Wreath locally, virtually, next week. More details about Poppy Day collections next week.

Our PTA have produced a really helpful newsletter-look out for it tomorrow

Y6 parents - please be aware that Secondary School Admissions are now open until 31st October. Please make sure that you are fully informed and that your child does not miss out. Speak with Mrs Ward or Mrs Potter if you are uncertain about what to do.

Thought for the week Lord, come to our aid. Grant us peace, teach us peace, guide us in the way of peace Invocation for peace Vatican Gardens June 2014

And Finally...

Keep our communicants and their families in your prayers, this week. When we wait for things, our patience never goes unnoticed, with God.

"Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another" St. Mary of the Angels, Weston Crescent, Aldridge Walsall WS9 OHA www.st-maryangel.walsall.sch.uk postbox@st-maryangel.walsall.sch.uk

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