



or, "here we go again" 😊

Dear Parents,

- Site safety**- we continue to have 52% of pupils on site across the week, and 69% of our Nursery in attendance. We are almost at capacity, in many classes during these Lockdown restricted times. Please can I remind all parents that there is an expectation that social distancing will be fully supported. Thank you so very much to almost all parents who really are looking after our staff by **maintaining those distances, wearing masks and leaving the site quickly.**
- Thank you**-for the great response to necessary amendments to the school day, last week. The staggered start and end times are there to protect staff as well as children and parents. We appreciate your vigilance.
- Lateral flow testing** – Commencing next week, all primary school staff, nationally, are being strongly encouraged to participate in lateral flow testing. **This will mean that staff at St Mary's will be completing 30 minutes tests, twice weekly. As parents, you will need therefore, to have "plan b" in place if your child is attending school, as the current statistics suggest that 1 in 3 adults are asymptomatic.** I will, as normal, let parents know, as soon as I can, however classes with staff with positive test results, will need to isolate for 10 days. It might be worth all parents looking at the class pages and the videos and provision that the children will need to access remotely, if and when classes need to isolate.
- How to access your child's class page Remote Learning Guide**- Please find attached a simple guide, for all parents, to support access to remote learning. It has proved itself to be very useful for several parents already- thanks Mr Sutton for sharing it. Make sure that your child/ren has/have their passwords for the class page and for relevant websites also.
- New security fencing work to commence during half term**- we are really looking forward to the safer security, that the Diocesan grant has facilitated. However, it will mean that there will be some disruption around the site during half term and for the two weeks after half term. *All we need now is a snow storm and we will have met every possible obstacle this half term! I believe one is on its way... 😊*. Nursery parents in particular will need to keep abreast of the changes which will be shared with all parents, over the next two weeks, as the Nursery path will, through necessity be out of bounds. Thank you.

**Home Learning** - staff have been analysing the use of the class pages to support children's learning, during this Lockdown. It has improved by about 20% in many cases, with conscientious access and learning being high in all classes and 100% engagement in most. A very big thank you to staff and to parents for persisting and working as a team to really ensure that the children's entitlement to learn is met. **It is difficult; it is different but in the words of the L'Oréal advert, your children "are worth it".**

## Still on about "yes yellow"?



Next week, again in their videos, teachers will be expecting children to edit their work, in the way we do in school. Teachers will be asking children

AFTER they have finished their work, to look for some examples of: good word choices, or capital letters, or a spelling pattern, or a well formed number or letter, etc. When children spot these, they are asked to **"yes yellow"** them **(It can be ANY colour or even underline or circle the word).** It just reminds them about what they already know is expected in their writing. We had some great efforts from many children this week- thank you. Parents, give it a try- it will immediately improve their concentration.

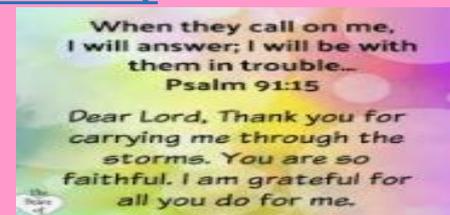
## Other news

**Congratulations' Assembly was well received. It is great to have a chance to celebrate and share the many successes. It will be on class pages, once again, tomorrow morning.**

**Thank you to Mrs Amann for her story reading. I think she compares with many of the top celebrities. She certainly has my attention. Look out for new stories/chapters next week**

**Thank you also to Mrs Donovan for some great Dance videos available via class pages also. eek. Look out for it on class pages; it will be worth tuning in to.**

## And Finally...



**"Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another"**