**St Mary’s Catholic Primary School**

**Living. Loving and learning with God**

**Monday 20th July 2020**

**Dear Parents Carers,**

**As we reach the very last few days of this year we can’t begin to thank you enough for the many ways that you have supported this year and especially this term. We hope you enjoy some calm some fun and that you and yours stay safe. We are looking forward to September 2020 and hope that we have learned that together we can do anything and can start the year – and whatever it will bring – with a sense of hope and energy.**

**Reminders and updates for next term.**

**NO VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED IN THE CAR PARK – whilst we appreciate that this is inconvenient it is essential that this is adhered to.**

**Reminder of staggered entry and exit will remain in the Autumn term.**

**Robin 9.15 start via side door off the main entrance. End of day 3.00pm**

**Woodpecker start 8.45 via side door off the main entrance. End of day 3.15pm**

**Owl start 8.45 via new wooden gates. End of day 3.15pm**

**Kestrel 9.00am via new wooden gates. End of day 3.30**

**Eagle 9.00am via new wooden gates. End of day 3.30**

**We appreciate that this is not what we are used too and realise that it may require some additional organisation if you have siblings in different classes. Thank you in advance for your continued support for this transitional plan.**

In week one we are asking all parents to work to the times given.

Going forwards we will work to support sensible amendments. This may include setting up a ‘holding space’ so that children can wait safely or negotiating times. We will resolve these practical issues as soon as we can.

**Social Distancing**

There will be more parents entering and leaving school than we are used to since lockdown began. If your child is happy to walk from the main gate staff will ensure that they enter school. If you are coming through the gate please work to maintain a safe distance from others and work to drop off and collect your child promptly without standing to talk to others.

Be aware that Pre school parents will also be entering and exiting to use the blue side gate.

**Home to school items**

**Book bags** do not need to come to school in the first two weeks. We will update you on this as we progress.

**Lunch box** : if your child is having a packed lunch then they need to bring in a wipeable plastic box and preferably have items that your child can manage themselves.

**Water bottle** should come in to school. If you prefer that your child accesses a cup then that can be accommodated. You do not need to let us know this we will provide water in school if your child doesn’t have access to a water bottle.

**Break time snacks :** where possible this should be a piece of fruit. Robin and Woodpecker and Owl Year 2 pupils should receive fruit through the Government scheme so will not need a snack from home.

**Back packs : We are working not to have bags in school. Children should not need to bring a bag for the items they need. If you feel your child requires a bag then in the first instance email school and we will contact you.**

**Coat :** Every day your child will be outdoors. During September and October (before it becomes cold ) If you send your child into school with a coat , then where possible, could this be a thin rain coat ( as in a pac mac/ shower resistant jacket ). This will help with storing of coats in school.

**PE kits** – on days when children have PE they will be asked to come into school in PE kit and stay in it for the day. A reminder that St Mary’s PE kit is part of our uniform. Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit for next year.

**In the first week, the only classes who will need to come dressed in their P.E kits on Thursday 10th September are Owl and Kestrel class.** When we return to school in September we will let you know which classes will need their P.E kits on which days.

**Zebra Crossing update-good news!**

We have been advised that work should be starting on the zebra crossing outside school in August which is great news.

**Supporting Track and Trace**

We are working to re establish the whole school and at the same time adjust to the new guidelines. Going forwards we all have to be prepared to self isolate for 8 days or 14 days if we or family members come into contact with symptoms of Covid 19. This creates lots of unknowns for all of us going forwards. We are preparing for a range of scenarios through the next term.

In the event of individual/ families/ whole class/ whole school being at home for 8 days, 14 days or more we have set up Tapestry for all of Robin Class and Google Classroom for the rest of the school. **Please see the information attached about Google Classroom.** Log in information will be sent to you at the start of next term. In school children teachers will be introducing this to the class groups.

**First day of the Autumn term for pupils is Tuesday 8th September**

**A final and sincere thank you**

We are a little overwhelmed to have finally reached the end of this term. The last term; with all of the changes and new systems created has felt like a complete year in itself.

Last week Captain Tom was knighted. What feels like the greatest celebration is that so many people got behind him to create something very special. We feel that despite all of the challenges we have faced this term, then together, as a community of parents, children and staff then we have also pulled together and created something very special.



**Song for the season**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2trTOe8YuX0>

Look for the Good in everyone Jason Mraz

**A final prayer to close this year**

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
 God alone suffices. Teresa of Avila