



Weekly Newsletter - Friday 4th December 2020 - Autumn Term

Email: office@stmarysinfschool.org.uk or office@stmarysjunior.org.uk

Executive Headteacher, Mrs S Hulme. Chair of Governors, Mr B Tomkins

Safeguarding Statement: This school takes notice of and adheres to all the national and local policies and guidance in regard to Safeguarding Children and Young People.

Lead Safeguarding Person Junior School: Mrs. S Hulme Nursery & Infant School: Mrs. M Quinn.

Safeguarding Deputies: Mrs. S Hulme, Mrs H Nicholls, Miss F Sullivan & Miss E Bryant Safeguarding Governor: Mr. T Richmond

New PTA Email address: pta@stmarysfed.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been given some hope of a way out of this most difficult time with the development of a vaccine for COVID 19. May we continue to have much hope and put our trust in our dear Lord.

In school, we will continue to enforce our safeguarding measures at least until our return after Christmas. We thank everyone for their patience in coming to terms with greater restrictions including our lead up to the end of term. We are currently reviewing the position for our return after Christmas and await the next guidance from the government.

We have the Christmas trees up in school in addition to the cribs and seasonal lights. A variety of activities are being planned in class over the last two weeks. Unfortunately, these will still need to be within the class bubbles but it is important to keep everyone safe to enable them to enjoy Christmas time with families as much as possible. Thank you for the huge support and understanding.

Spirituality

Sunday 6th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent



This week saw the first of the reflective sessions for the CYMFED Faith in Action Award 2020-2021. Thirty-five Y6 pupils have embarked upon this journey in faith which involves a commitment of prayer and practical acts of service to others. Please keep them in your prayers.



Preparations are afoot for our CAFOD fundraising day which will take place on **Thursday 10th December**. On this day pupils will enjoy creative activities linked to CAFOD's work around the world with each class focusing on a particular country. All the money raised will go towards buying CAFOD's many and varied World Gifts which transform lives. Click this link for more information.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/World-Gifts>

Pupils are invited to wear a Christmas or festive jumper on this day with the normal school uniform. Donations should be made via a St. Mary's Catholic Federation JustGiving page - details to follow next Monday.

Many thanks for your donations to our **Reverse Advent Calendar**. We will continue to receive donations of **food** (long shelf life - tins, packets, jars & more festive goodies); **toiletries** (new and in unopened packaging please) and **socks** for the homeless (men's sizes preferred) until Monday 14th December.

News for the week

Ventilation in School

Following a number of enquiries, we thought it would be helpful to include some information in today's newsletter. Management continue to monitor this across each school whilst giving you a reassurance that the school heating is working effectively in each school.

Risk assessments continue to be in place regarding ventilation and this follows what should be normal day practise for clean air circulation although we are more aware of this during the current time. The expectations are that good ventilation is vital on a day to day basis in all rooms. Obviously the temperature varies throughout the day depending on the room being full of people or left empty during break times.

We have children who don't like to feel very hot and take their jumpers off in class and those who prefer to be warmer so it is a bit of a task to accommodate all. If your child reports that they sometimes feel cold, then we ask that you provide another under layer e.g. a vest or appropriate T shirt. We also have an issue from day to day with children not wanting to wear coats outside for playtime and at the end of the day.

We also ask you to provide warm accessories of hats and gloves that form part of the expected school uniform to support them being warm at times when they have outdoor activities. We do need to remind parents that outdoor activities continue in line with the daily delivery of the school curriculum. Hopefully this has reassured you and answered some queries.

Home School Agreements

These will be sent home with your child today, in their bookbags/bags, to be completed by both pupils and parents. These need be returned to school by Friday 11th December. This document confirms that parents agree to abide by all school policies. On the flip side - the class that manages to get a complete signed set first will be rewarded with extra playtime as a reward.

Guidance update:

Sutton is in **Tier 2 High alert level from today** This [poster](#) helps demonstrate what this means.

Small world items

Thank you to parents who often recycle items of toys and games that help to resource our classes in school. We are currently looking to replace some items for the "small world" activities in Early Years. If you have any Lego, Play Mobil figures, animals, trees, buildings or small transport models we would gladly take them in school. Please put them in a bag and leave them in the box outside the office. Thank you in anticipation of you enjoying a clear out at home.

PTA 50/50 2020/21 Winners

September – White RL

October – R Price Family Grandad

November – The Trim Family

December – Ewa Wasiluk

Please collect your winnings from the Infant School Office – Thank you

Governors Fund

Thank you to those people who have made a contribution so far this year - this amounts to 52% of our families. Can we politely remind you to complete the Gift Aid Form too as this brings in the valuable extra funding from HMRC. This year has been a record so far. Thank you

Thank you to one of our neighbours for their lovely message on social media.

The photo doesn't really do it justice, but well done to St Mary's school in West Street for their Christmas display, complete with Nativity scene 🌲



Please can we request only water be put into the water bottles! Thank you