



*Shining with God's love, pride and success*

St Maria Goretti Catholic Primary School,  
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14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents,

First of all, I want to say a huge well done to all of our children who come to school every day, on time and have started the term excellently with a good attitude to learning. Thank you for always making sure your children wear the correct uniform and for having their PE kits in school. Can I just remind the few children who forget our rules that BOOTS and TRAINERS are not school uniform and they will be asked to remove them. The blue hooded sweatshirt is for PE only and should not replace the blue sweater. Mrs Barton has lots of spare uniform if anyone would like any help.

#### New Staff

We welcome Mrs. Sergeant (Reception) and Mrs Holt (Y6) to our fantastic teaching team. They both come with a wealth of teaching experience so we are very excited that they can share their expertise with us. I know you will make them very welcome.

#### Y6.

This term we are very lucky that through our strong relationships with Hothersall Lodge they have offered us a six week climbing course as part of our PE. Y6 will be attending Hothersall Lodge each Thursday and have been split into three groups so they can also start their journey on preparing for the SAT tests that they will face in May.

10 children have also been selected to represent SMG to work with the University of Central Lancs and be part of the research team in an exciting nature project. The children have worked online and face to face and the university are very impressed with their questioning skills and their positive attitudes. Well done!

#### DOJO

Class dojo is such a fantastic communication tool that allows staff and parents to communicate effectively. Please could I ask that you respect the staff and try not to message late at night when they are having private family time of their own. The staff at SMG are excellent at getting back to you and always go above and beyond but they have been instructed to only answer during suitable hours. All messages are logged, so I ask that you think before you message a staff member and always be kind. If staff receive any abusive or personal messages than this will be reported and your rights to dojo will be cancelled.

### PTFA

The PTFA held their first meeting this week and have a few fundraising events planned for this term. I think I may have heard a Valentine disco shhhh!! So watch out for further details. The PTFA ( Parents, Teachers and Friends Association) work hard at our school to provide our children with the very best equipment and opportunities. The PANTO was a HUGE success and was enjoyed by all. Thank you so much!

### Primary School Places

If you know anyone who is starting school in September -the closing date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January. Please apply to [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk) to secure your place.

### Information on the changes of the self-isolation period

As you all aware the new 'Omicron Variant of Covid' is highly transmissible but not as severe. Unfortunately, I tested positive last weekend for the second time but haven't been anywhere as ill as the first time (thank goodness!) and hopefully only a few staff have been affected. We currently have 6 children who have also tested positive. Thank you to everyone for pulling together and helping out. Staff are still testing regularly and have been encouraged to make sure they are fully vaccinated including their booster so that they are not having additional time away from school. Please test your children if they have any symptoms.

The current isolation rules states that if you are fully vaccinated and test negative on days 6 and 7 then you can finish isolating and don't need to complete the full 10 days however, these are changing on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January.

**If you test positive on LFT there's no need to book a PCR. You must isolate immediately but can leave isolation after a negative LFT on days 5 and the morning of day 6. School will ask for evidence. Thank you!**

### Parking

Sorry to have to put this on again, however, I have been contacted by a member of the LCC waste disposal team who has informed me that for the second time in a week, the bin lorry was unable to gain access to the school because of parked cars outside the gates. Please use your common sense and do not block the gates or access to the school. There should not be any cars other than staff's entering the school car park (even if it is raining!)

If you have any questions or queries please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Mrs Rich