



# School Newsletter

With Christ we live, we love, we learn and we grow

26.06.2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

## Welcome back Nursery, Reception and Year 1!

It has been brilliant this week, finally opening the school up for children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and the key worker children. The systems in place all seemed to work, we learned a little each day and made small tweaks along the way. All the classrooms are now in use by 'bubbles,' so the school feels busy and vibrant once again.

It was a great pleasure to see the children so obviously thrilled to be reunited with their friends and to meet some of the familiar adults in school once again. They have knuckled down to learning, adhered to the rules, washed their hands frequently and stayed within their bubbles; they have been excellent and a credit to you.

I would like to thank the parents who have been dropping off and picking up too. Your patience and understanding have been greatly appreciated, as is the way you have also adhered to the guidance. Thank you.

To the children and parents who have not been able to attend school this week, **we have not forgotten about you!** I hope that, in following the guidance provided by the DfE, over the coming weeks, we will be able to welcome everybody back safely in the autumn term – fingers crossed. In the meantime, I would encourage you to stick at your work over the next three weeks, check in with SeeSaw, Tapestry and Class Dojo and do the best you can with it.

In the last week of term we are welcoming back all of Y6. Because there are 32 of them, we will need to split them into three separate bubbles and use the IT room in addition to Y3 and Y4 classrooms. The school will be at full capacity then, so we will be limited on places for additional key worker children. I will give you more information on what this means when I have it.

## What are the plans for a September return for the whole school?

The DfE have informed us that it is their intention that all pupils will go back to school in September. You may have heard talk of bubbles of 30 (double bubbles!) but we have received no information about this yet. The DfE said that it will be releasing further guidance next week and over the coming weeks to assist schools to prepare for a full return. As soon as I know or hear anything, I will let you know.

## Moving Up and Transition

You and your children might be keen to know about what the next year in school is going to be like. Usually at the start of July, the teachers would be making sure that the children become familiar with their next year group's rules and routines. The Y6s typically spend a day at their new high school. Here at St Mary's, children would normally have a 'moving-up' session. As you can appreciate, this will be nigh on impossible to do this year, since half of the school are not in attendance and a number of staff are not in either. Therefore, most of this transition and familiarisation work will happen when we all return, hopefully in September.

However, there are some children with special educational needs and/ or disabilities (SEND) who do need particular support in their transition to a new year group before they start it. The SEND team at the local authority have advised us that the transition booklets and information, that would usually be provided for these children and their families, should only be sent out once we are sure of the details for the return for the new school year. This is to avoid creating any unnecessary stress and anxiety for the children; in the event that plans, which are made, subsequently have to be unmade.

Once there is a clear and definite plan in place, for a return to school in September, Mrs Singleton (SENDCO) and the teachers will be in a better position to share transition information with those children and parents who need it. Thank you for your understanding.

### **School uniforms**

Some of you might be wondering about school uniforms; we have had one or two queries at the office. Mrs Wilson tells me that we are expecting the delivery of uniforms imminently. Once it has arrived Mrs Wilson and Mrs Hargreaves will send out details of collection times.

### **Star of the Week 26.06.2020**

Because some classes are now split into three groups, I'm not going to publish Stars of the Week for the remaining three weeks. Some classes, that are able to, may carry on with awarding children but children and parents will be notified via Class Dojo rather than the newsletter.



### **Toy Sweet Shop Trolley to give away**

We have been clearing out cupboards and before we throw it in the skip, we have a Toy Sweet Shop trolley to give away. In all the years that I have been at St Mary's, I have seen it used only once. It's in good, general condition. First come, first served it's yours to take away. If you are interested, please call Mrs Wilson at the school office.

### **SS Peter and Paul**

This Sunday is the Feast of SS Peter and Paul. The children from Years 2 to 6 would normally be attending Mass at St Mary's Church on Monday after. We usually take this opportunity to celebrate Y4's journey of faith during the year, taking part in the Family Catechesis and in receiving the

Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion. On the Monday afternoon, the Y4s would be enjoying a tea party in the school hall and Fr Marsden would bless the gifts that they received at First Holy Communion.

Below is the Gospel of St Matthew tells us how Peter was chosen to be the first Pope and the first leader of the Christian Church. We usually see St Peter with a bunch of keys – the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven. St Paul (formerly known as Saul of Tarsus) is the apostle who writes many books to many people telling all about what he is finding on his travels and preaching the Word of God.



*When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So, I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'*

***Matthew 16:13-19***

### **St Mary's Church**

Kinga has informed us that the parish is now allowed to have public Masses in the church from **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July**. Daily Mass under H&S Rules. More information in the Parish Newsletter. Kinga also asked me to mention that if you are aware of anyone who is struggling to put food on the table at the moment to please contact her at the parish office on 01257 262537.

### **Useful Contacts**

#### Community support

Chorley council Tel 01257 515151

[Covid-19Support@southribble.gov.uk](mailto:Covid-19Support@southribble.gov.uk) Tel 01772 625625

hubofhope.co.uk (postcode gives local support available)

#### Domestic abuse

National Domestic Abuse Helpline Tel 0808 2000 247 (staffed 24 hrs a day)

#### Young people

[www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)

Inspire crisis helpline (drugs and alcohol-young people) Tel 07984357293

#### Food banks

Living waters store house/food bank Tel 0344 245 1294 Mon-Fri 9-5pm

Penwortham Community Centre offer pre-packed emergency parcels (Kingsfold Drive Penwortham Preston PR1 9EQ) open Fridays 9.30-12

#### Older Adults support

Coronavirus helpline-Age UK Lancashire-Tel 01772 552850 (Anyone over 70 who are struggling due to self-isolating and need support)

[www.thesilverline.org.uk/](http://www.thesilverline.org.uk/) Tel 0800 470 80 90 – free confidential helpline open 24 hrs a day

[www.gransnet.com/](http://www.gransnet.com/) advice for dealing with isolation and loneliness

## FREE DIGITAL EDITION OF CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

A message from *The Week* children's newspaper



'We contacted you recently to let you know that we have temporarily added free access to our new digital edition to your school subscription. *The Week Junior's* digital edition is an easy way for your pupils to access the magazine wherever they are. It's easy to use and publishes at the same time as the print magazine, every Friday.

Please be aware that we have updated the app, and once you have downloaded the new version, your pupils will need a voucher code to access the digital edition of *The Week Junior*.

Please feel free to share this code and instructions below with your pupils.

Your voucher code is: **TWJ2301ghi** - this code is unique to your school so please make a note of it and keep it safe.

### What you need to do:

1. Make sure you have the latest version of The Week Junior app on your iOS or Android device
2. If you had already downloaded the app, you will need to visit your app store and download an update
3. If you don't have the app yet, simply search "The Week Junior" in the iOS App Store or Google Play
4. To log into the app for the first time, select the 3 dots in the top right corner, select 'Account', select 'Voucher codes' and enter your voucher code shown above

The digital edition can also be accessed online to view in your browser at [magazine.theweekjunior.co.uk](http://magazine.theweekjunior.co.uk). To log in, select the head icon, select 'Have you got a voucher code?' and enter your code.

If you have any problems with logging in, please contact [learn@theweekjunior.co.uk](mailto:learn@theweekjunior.co.uk). We love to hear what our readers are up to. Please encourage your teachers and pupils to share their news and ideas with us, and tell us what they've enjoyed in *The Week Junior* at [hello@theweekjunior.co.uk](mailto:hello@theweekjunior.co.uk).

Best wishes,

Patrick Smyth Headteacher