



St Mary's C of England Primary School & Nursery Newsletter - Issue 13 - 26/3/2021



Please note that should you wish to receive this newsletter in a different format please ask at the school office.

This term's Christian Value is Respect:

'Do to others as you would have them do to you.' Mathew 7.12



Achievers Awards

Little Acorns: Olivia H for playing nicely and looking after the Nursery's toys

Little Oaks: Effie-Mae for amazing manners and always saying 'Excuse me' to interject into a conversation. Oliver H for super, super reading

Class 1: Rowan for being kind to his friend when he hurt himself

Class 2: Dennis for always displaying THE BEST manners to everyone

Class 3: Niamh and Bestsy for showing respect to everyone ALL of the time

Class 4: Freya for showing respect for others' belongings

Class 5: Jasper and Aaron for being kind and showing our newest pupil the ropes.

Class 6: Ella for ALWAYS being respectful (and amazing) in all situation

Term dates

Please note that there is a change to the term dates published last week. Monday 3rd January, 2022 is a bank holiday so Tuesday 4th is the INSET day and children start back on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

End of Term Arrangements - A reminder

Traditionally at the end of every 'big term' (Christmas, Easter and in the Summer) school finishes a little bit earlier for children. Please see timings below for our staggered finish to the end of this term, 1st April, 2022.

2.00 Class 2

2.05 Class 1

2.10 Class 6

2.15 Class LO/Nursery

2.20 Class 4

2.25 Class 5

2.30 Class 3

School meals during the Easter Break

During the Easter break the Local Authority, B&NES, will be issuing vouchers for supermarkets to those parents/carers of pupils entitled to FSM. An email has been sent to all eligible parents/carers along with the letter from B&NES giving further details so please make sure you check your inboxes.

Parents Evenings

Thank you to the many, many parents for arranging to meet with your child's class teacher via zoom or phone this past week. We would expect to speak to all parents to update them on how their child is doing at school, find out about remote learning and link with home-life. If you have not managed to find a time slot, please get in touch via email, Class Dojo or phone the office to arrange a convenient time.



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Attendance:

Class	Today's Attendance
Little Oaks	100%
Class 1	100%
Class 2	100%
Class 3	96%
Class 4	100%
Class 5	100%
Class 6	96%



COVID Updates

We are mindful of the difficulties for all having only one entrance to our school site. It is difficult to socially distance on the pavement and is made even more difficult with the narrow lane for cars.

Many parents use the field adjacent to the park to say good-bye to their children and wait at the end of the day and this helps in avoiding congestion on the path. We would suggest that, during the better weather, this would be a great solution for all.

To facilitate constant movement and avoid blocking the only entrance into the school after Easter we will welcome two year groups in at the same time (in phases) and arrange for children to line up inside the school gate in designated places or walk straight to their classes from drop off. Please arrive at your designated time or that of a sibling.

Teachers have been asked not to converse with parents blocking the entrance but are always available by email, phone, or Class Dojo/Tapestry.

Staggered drop off at the end of the day would be much easier if parents were to wait on the play park field, again avoiding congestion at the gate.

We are hopeful with more people being vaccinated, the decreasing number of COVID cases and the government roadmap continuing to be able to as soon as possible further decrease the necessity to stagger starts, limit ourselves to 'bubbles' and get back to a more normal way of working but currently we must maintain the good practices we have implemented.

Classes 1 and 2: 8:40am / 2:50pm

Classes 3 and 4: 8:50am / 3.00pm

Classes 5 and 6: 9.00am / 3.10pm

EYFS: 9:10am / 3.15pm

Bubbles will remain as class bubbles during the school day for now!

CLUBS

We are keen to resume our extra-curricular clubs as soon as possible, in a COVID secure way. Currently clubs would be limited to 'bubbles' so run as a class club. Over the next few days teachers will discuss with their class what club they would like to attend and in a democratic way go with the majority. We will let you know more after Easter.



Extending the 'Orchard'





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Thanks to a scheme from The Tree Council (and to Mrs Hazelton for signing us up), we have had a number of fruit trees donated to school. This week children across the school, support staff, teachers and a representative of the governors all planted plum, pears and apple trees to extend our school orchard. We can't wait to collect the fruit from them. Huge thanks to Mr Hodges from the cleaning team and JJ (class 6) for preparing the holes.





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PE Uniform



St Mary's have some exciting news. We have found that children attending school in their PE kit on the days that they have their PE sessions has increased the time that children spend learning and being physically active. Children tell us they prefer it too. So we have revamped our PE uniform for September 2021 to allow this to continue but to ensure that the children look smart and

The uniform is as follows:

- Burgundy school hoody with logo
- Burgundy t-shirt with logo
- Black shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms
- Suitable footwear (black daps or trainers)



PE kit can be purchased from <https://gooddies.co.uk/product-category/schools/st-marys-c-of-e-primary/>

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

EASTER BREAK OUT - BATH RUGBY

We are pleased to be delivering Easter Break Out on behalf of B&NES Council and the Department of Education (DOE) - a series of FREE fun-filled Easter holiday hubs for local vulnerable children and teenagers, supported by a consortia of other Charities and local businesses. The hubs will offer the provision of sport, food and recreational activities.

Hubs will operate Tuesday - Friday (w/c 4th & 11th April) at Southside Youth Hub in Bath, Castle Primary in Keynsham and Welton Rovers FC in Midsomer Norton.

Hub sessions will be available for children and teenagers from across B&NES, who are entitled to Free School Meals (Pupil Premium Plus). This limitation on participant numbers is due to current Covid-19 restrictions - the team are committed to supporting as many young people as permitted across the two-week period. Click on the link below for more information:

<https://www.bathrugbyfoundation.com/news/easter-break-out>

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS:

Test and Trace Support Payment: Parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their schools or by NHS Test and Trace are now able to apply for a [Test and Trace Support Payment](#) or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria. The extension of the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme is intended to ensure that parents receive the financial support they need if they are unable to attend work due to childcare responsibilities. Applications for the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme are made via the local authority in which the parent or carer resides, not the local authority where the setting is situated, if these are different.



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To be eligible applicants must meet all the criteria that:

- they are the parent or guardian of a child or young person in the same household and need to take time off work to care for them while they self-isolate. This is limited to one parent or guardian per household for the child or young person's self-isolation period.
- they are employed or self-employed.
- they cannot work from home while undertaking caring responsibilities and will lose income as a result.
- they meet all the other means-tested eligibility criteria for a Test and Trace Support Payment or locally determined criteria for a discretionary payment.

That their child:

- is aged 15 or under (or 25 or under with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC)) and normally attends an education or childcare setting.
- has been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their education or childcare setting because they have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19.