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# St Mary's

## Church of England Primary School

### NEWSLETTER

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

#### Dear parents and carers,

We trust that you and your families are staying safe and well and we thank you for your patience and support in this challenging time.



Today should have been May Day and we are all incredibly disappointed for the children that this not been able to happen.

Particular thoughts go out to Y6 who would have been playing a very special part in this celebration as their final May Day before they move on to their secondary schools next term.

#### Half Term 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May 2020:

Next week is May half term and teachers will be emailing some suggested, optional activities for the children to do during this week, much like we did during the Easter holiday. In light of this, learning will not be set using Google Classroom for half term week.

Do also take a look at [Oak National Academy](https://www.oaknationalacademy.com/), which is launching a range of fun and educational activities called Oak Activity Club for children to enjoy during half-term next week. The activities will be uploaded to Oak National Academy's website each day of half term and they have been joined by a number of partners to provide activities including:

- Cook-alongs with the head chef at the Jamie Oliver Cookery School
- The Scouts will be helping pupils explore The Great Indoors – showing how to make slime, polish pennies and cook billy-can breakfast beans
- [Jamie's Farm](https://www.jamiesfarm.co.uk/) will bring the countryside to young people, showing how to feed animals, build fences to protect crops and shear lambs, and give great ideas about how to make healthy choices

**INSET Day:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June is listed in the school calendar as an INSET day and on this day, all staff will be involved in training, planning and preparation for re-opening. For this reason, teachers will not be setting learning tasks on Google Classroom on that day. This will resume on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Google Classroom:** Thank you so much for your patience and engagement with Google Classroom in Years 1 to 6. It's great to hear that some of the original difficulties with the technology have been overcome and that the children are accessing it so well. Do keep an eye on the [class pages](#) where we will be continuing to share some of the wonderful work the children have been doing.

Diocese of St Albans  
London Borough of Barnet



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



### **Chair of Governors Update:**

Sadly, due to pressures of work, our previous Chair of Governors, Keith Reynolds, resigned from post in March shortly after our SIAMS Inspection. Since then, our strategy group of governors has met regularly to discuss key strategic issues and the co-Vice Chairs have been working closely with the Senior Leadership Team on all matters including our response to COVID-19 pending the election of a new chair by our Full Governing Body. The full Governing Body then met yesterday, 21st May and elected Stephen Edwards as Chair with immediate effect. We send our best wishes to Keith and thank him for his service as Chair, and wish him well for the future.

### **Proposed Phased Re-Opening Yr, Y1, Y6:**

A separate letter will be shared today with all parents and carers. Do read this very carefully. There is action required from some parents in YR, Y1 and Y6.

### **Staffing update:**

Some of you will know that our Y5 teacher, Mrs. Reynolds became a proud Nana earlier this year. From the start of June, Mr. Reddie (who the children already know well) will be sharing the role of Y5 class teacher with Mrs. Reynolds across the week until the end of term. We have written to Year 5 parents with more details.

**Prayers:** With kind permission, we'd like to share some beautiful prayers written by two children in Year 6.

Dear Lord,

In this time of uncertainty and fear, I pray that you watch over us and guide us in our everyday lives. We ask you to forgive us our sins and may we be considered righteous in the eyes of the Lord, allow us to strive to please and honour you in everything we do.

Help those who have no-one and nowhere to turn to, and welcome them into your arms so they may find a place of refuge there.

I pray for those who have died and hope they are in a place of utter peace and safety, allow their memory to live on through us. I pray for those who are grieving and in these tough times, may you give us the strength to carry on and always be with us now and forever.

I ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen

*By Lila*

Dear God,

In this very scary time, I am thankful for:

My family staying healthy,  
Having a lovely house and a garden,  
All the amazing NHS workers who are saving lives,  
The kindness shown by so many people helping those who need it.

In this very scary time, please look after:

All the people suffering with coronavirus and help them survive this horrible battle,  
Those who have died recently and need a place in Heaven,  
Families who have lost a loved one and are missing them.

In this very scary time, please pray for:

The whole World's health,  
Scientists finding a cure so we never have to suffer a virus like this again,  
People to be able to work again.

Amen.

*By Samson*

**From all of us at St Mary's primary school, stay safe, stay well and our love and prayers be with you.**

**Maria Constantinou and Mel Adams,  
Headteachers**