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St Mary's

Church of England Primary School

ENFORCED CLOSURE AND CRITICAL WORKER PROVISION

31st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and that you have remained safe and well. You may have heard the news yesterday that the government have decided to delay the return to school for Primary and Secondary schools in Barnet along with the majority of London boroughs, owing to a worrying rise in Covid-19 case numbers. St. Mary's will therefore be operating full, online learning from Monday 4th January until full return is reviewed and confirmed by the government.

Online Learning:

All children now have access to Google Classroom and we are confident, following online surveys in the autumn term, that all children have access to a device to enable them to complete remote learning activities. If you have subsequently had a change in circumstance and require support with access to online learning, please send an email to the school office as soon as possible.

During this period of enforced closure, the children will experience the same breadth of curriculum learning as they would in school; online learning will include clear explanations, for example with audio narration and screen shares where appropriate in order to replicate what teachers would do in the classroom. The children will also receive feedback on their learning with questions and advice on how to improve as needed. We know how much the children enjoy the social aspect of Google Meets, so these will continue as before with teacher providing details on the Class Stream.

Critical Worker Provision:

As we did following the enforced closure in March, we will be offering provision for identified vulnerable children along with children of [critical workers](#) to support these parents and carers to continue to work in their key roles. Provision will be offered to cover the days that critical workers are working. We will contact families separately where children are identified as vulnerable.

WE HAVE DEVISED AN ONLINE SURVEY TO QUICKLY GATHER AN ACCURATE PICTURE OF NEED.

WE ASK THAT ALL PARENTS COMPLETE THE SURVEY PLEASE.

Completing the Critical Worker survey:

- Please check the [critical worker list](#) first if necessary.
- Click on [this link](#) to respond **OR** respond to the survey link sent by text; **only respond to the survey ONCE and only complete ONE SURVEY PER FAMILY please.**

COMPLETE SURVEY BY 6PM TODAY 31ST JANUARY TO ALLOW US TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS.

UNTIL WE RECEIVE THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY BACK, WE ARE UNABLE TO PLAN HOW PROVISION WILL BE ORGANISED.

How will on site provision for Critical Worker and vulnerable children operate?

- Provision will be during usual school hours with continued staggered entry and egress.
- The children will be accessing the same activities as their peers at home; those in school will be accessing Google Classroom and will be able to participate in Google Meets as usual.

The Critical Worker provision will be supervised by all class based staff on a rota in order that they may maintain distance learning for those not on site. At times, this will mean that they are not available during the school day. We will send you further details of this when we rotas have been arranged.

Childminders, including informal childcare arrangements courtesy of family members continue to be permitted.

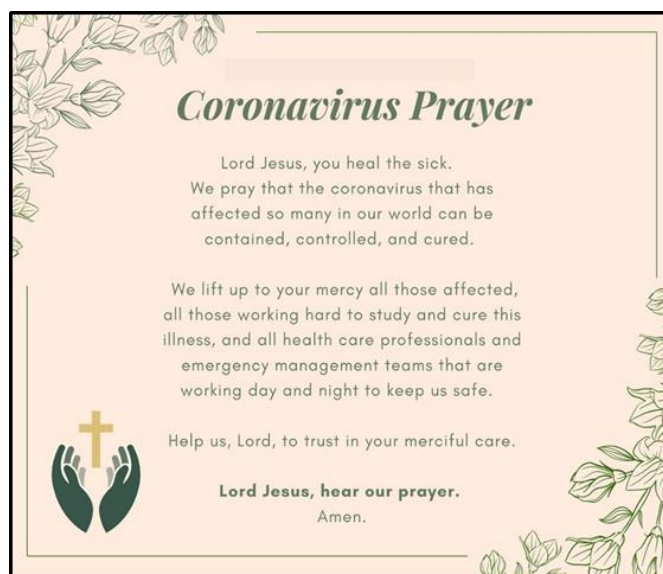
What next?

Once we have received responses to the Critical Worker survey, we will be able to make all the necessary arrangements and we will contact parents directly regarding requests for provision. **PLEASE DON'T DELAY IN YOUR RESPONSE TO THE SURVEY.**

It's most unfortunate that we find ourselves in this position again, and we will do everything we can to keep the children motivated and learning. As you know, we had planned for some of the Christmas activities that couldn't take place in the final week of term to be rescheduled for the first week in January. We will do our best to share some of these with the children as soon as we can.

Please notify us if your child or a member of the household has been affected by Covid-19 which could have implications for returning to school.

In the time being, please join us in our prayers for all of those affected by loss or illness at the challenging time.



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

Yours sincerely,
Maria Constantinou and Mel Adams
Headteachers