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# St Mary's

## Church of England Primary School

### Newsletter No. 1 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all safe well and that you have had a restful summer holiday so far.

Further to the newsletter that was sent on the last day of term, we have some additional information and some important changes that will now affect timings of the school day.

We have taken these steps following updated advice from the Department of Education, Public Health and the Local Authority, and the changes have been as an outcome of our revised school risk assessment. The full risk assessment will be emailed to you before the start of term.

As explained in July, all of these plans are subject to change should any further restrictions be imposed. We will of course keep you fully informed of any changes.

#### The Timetable from September:

Following the risk assessment, we have had to change some of the timings we had hoped to implement in the new term in relation to start and end of day. This is so that we can continue with infection control and maximise social distancing all in order to reduce risk of Covid transmission.

Our new plans for dropping children off are a refinement on last year but will still involve children coming in at different times. The time scale for drop off will be 8.30-8.50am and will involve younger siblings being allowed to come in with older siblings. **Children will go straight into class** as we have no capacity to provide before school supervision in the hall as we did last year. Older siblings may take younger ones to class before making their way to their own classrooms if needed.

Entrance to the front playground is now through the lower gate and exit through the middle gate, which will all be signposted. Senior staff will be on duty to help direct movement.

#### The School Day:

Classes	Start of day time	Location and information for access and egress	End of day time
Year 5 and Year 6	8.30am	Church Hill Road Gate. Y5 parents and children come through the gate and line up to the right of the middle gate. Y6 parents and children come through the gate and line up to the left of the middle gate.	3.15pm
Year 4 and Year 3	8.40am	Church Hill Road Gate. Y3 parents and children come through the gate and line up to the right of the middle gate.	3.25pm



		Y4 parents and children come through the gate and line up to the left of the middle gate.	
Year 2 and Year 1	8.50am	Church Hill Road Gate. Y2 parents and children come through the gate and line up to the right of the middle gate. Y1 parents/carers to come across the playground and bring the children to line up at the Y1 door.	3.35pm
Reception	8.50am	Arrival via Littlegrove entrance and on to the playground to line up. Exit through Church Hill Road gate.	3.35pm

### The End of the School Day:

Children will be collected at the corresponding times via the front playground. We will ask parents and carers to wait on the right of left as in the grid above. Y1 parents to collect the children from the Y1 classroom on the playground until the children are settled.

If you have more than one child in the school, please click on the link to this [online form](#) asking parents and carers in **Y1 to Y6** if they would like younger siblings to leave with older siblings at the end of the day. Please complete **one form per household by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August** to help us with our planning.

Once we know your preferences, will ask older siblings to collect younger ones from their classroom so they can meet parents at the end of the **oldest** child's school day.

### What will my child need in school?

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle (water fountains are still not in use)
- Children won't need a school bag as they are no longer bringing PE kits/home learning folders to and from school. Children may use a plastic bag if they'd like to bring anything in.
- Children can bring in school book bags if they have them.
- Children in Y2-6 will need a plastic/metal pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils, small glue stick.
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.
- Children having packed lunch – continue to use a plastic bag rather than a lunch box please.

### Collective Worship:

We are planning for daily Worship to take place in the hall next term. We will be splitting Y1-3 and Y4-6 so that we can keep the children more distanced during worship. YR will join in with worship once they are fully settled. We are hoping to organise a rota for weekly visits to St Mary's Church, as we have to limit the number of people in the building at any one time. We'll let you know once we have been able to confirm plans.

### Coached PE and kits:

Children will continue to come to school in PE kits on PE days.

This means PE kits will be washed more frequently and there are less delays to the start of PE lessons.

Please note that trainers are best for PE rather than plimsolls.

Class	Come to school in PE kit
Reception	Thursdays and Fridays
Year 1	Wednesdays and Fridays
Year 2	Wednesdays and Fridays
Year 3	Tuesdays and Thursdays
Year 4	Tuesdays and Wednesdays
Year 5	Mondays and Fridays
Year 6	Thursdays and Fridays

**There will be no PE on the first day of school. The first PE lessons will begin on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

**Face Masks:**

Despite restrictions lifting, we would like to ask parents and carers to kindly **wear a face covering at drop off and pick up times** (unless exempt). This is to protect others around you including members of staff.

**Hygiene Control Measures in School:**

We will continue to follow a high level of infection control in school, which will include handwashing and sanitising, in addition to increased cleaning of frequently touched surfaces. All classrooms will be well ventilated with doors and windows remaining open throughout the day.

**Breakfast Club:**

Breakfast Club will continue to run in September; children can arrive between 7.45 and 8.35am via the Littlegrove entrance, at the cost of £5.50 per session. **There is no requirement to book a place.** The children can enjoy a cooked breakfast and cereal. Our breakfast club is run by our own staff and is a very popular option to support working parents. Once they have eaten, the children can enjoy a range of activities on offer in the hall.

**Staffing update:**

We have successfully recruited a new caretaker over the summer. Mr. Elias Georgiou is an experienced caretaker and has been warmly welcomed to the staff team.

Many of you will know Mrs. Yvonne Cunningham who has worked at St. Mary's school for over thirty years as a meal time supervisor. Mrs. Cunningham has now retired from her position here and we send her all our love, prayers and thanks for her many years of service to the children.

**Dates for your diaries:**

- Training day: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September
- Children return to school: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

We will notify you of other important dates once the term begins.

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

**Maria Constantinou and Mel Adams  
Headteachers**



## OUR SCHOOL PRAYER

*This is our school,  
Where we are inspired by Christian values,  
Excited by our learning,  
Proud of our achievements,  
Determined to best we can be, and caring for all of God's creation.*

*Let peace dwell here,  
Let each room be full of contentment.  
Let love abide here.  
Love of one another,  
Love of people everywhere,  
Love of life itself,  
And love of God.*

*Let us remember  
That as many hands build a house,  
So many hearts build a school  
May God bless and keep each one of us.  
May God make His light to shine upon us and be gracious to us.  
May God give us His peace.*

*Amen*