

Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School



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13th November 2020

RE: Weekly Update for all parents

Dear Parents

During November we are asked to pray for those who have died. Please say this prayer at home with your children: Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. May their soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Next week we are marking Anti-Bullying week. There will be lots of activities happening across the school – the main thrust this year is one of kindness and of being a ‘kind person’. We’ll start the week on Monday with all children being asked to wear school uniform but with odd socks. Odd Socks Day is an opportunity to have fun, be yourself, and identify, and celebrate what makes us all unique.

I’ve recently been made aware of some unpleasantness between children in WhatsApp groups. Did you know that WhatsApp’s terms and conditions have changed and that users must be 16 or over? Please check and see if your child has set up their own account and take action if they have. The minimum age for most types of social media apps is 13 so a child at primary school shouldn’t have them. Again – please check.

A reminder that we are currently consulting on Relationship Education and Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing Education. To take part click here: www.smi.hounslow.sch.uk/consultation.html.

Following feedback from you at Parents’ Evenings we are changing how we organise Home Learning. In the beginning we had lots of children learning at home. As we said in the previous update – you’ve all done a great job with the home learning! Since schools have been open to all children from the start of this academic

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year in September we've only had a handful of children at home at any one time. This has meant that many of you haven't been using the Home Learning as we intended. We hoped that you would be able to look through the folders and either go through the work before it was taught in school (pre-teaching) or review it with your child afterwards (revision). But this hasn't happened as there's too much on there.

From next week you'll notice some changes – these are being made in the hope that all of you will be able to support your child's learning at home during this pandemic even if they are in school everyday. **Home Work and Home Learning are now called Learning at Home.** We have changed the name of the page on the website to 'Learning at home' and from this week you'll find activities and spellings for the week in the online folders. Books (apart from reading books), Maths Passports and spelling lists will no longer come home with the children but should be accessed from our website. Maths Passports will continue to be a focus in school.

In the folder for Fridays, instead of activities, there will be a link to an online quiz which the children must do. Teachers will give feedback on their answers in class or by telephone if your child is at home.

Please make use of these resources as we know that short focused tasks or activities which relate directly to what is being taught in school, and which are built upon in school, are likely to be more effective than longer pieces of work.

Children who are not in school should now follow the daily lessons on the Oak National Academy website here: <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage>. You can follow these too with your children if you want to but please cover the daily activities from us first by visiting the Learning at Home page of our website:

www.smi.hounslow.sch.uk/home-learning.html.

You'll also find further information about Learning at Home on this page. Thank you for your continued support.

St Mary! Pray for Us!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F Marsh', written in a cursive style.

F Marsh

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