



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

'We Pray, We Work, We Play'



Week Commencing Monday 2nd September 2019

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me."

Revelation 3:20

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the staff and governors of St. Mary's, I take great pleasure in welcoming you back for another school year and we hope you had a lovely summer holiday. We are really looking forward to welcoming your children back to school. Our staff have been busy over the holidays making sure that school is looking as bright, welcoming and conducive to the very best learning opportunities that we can bring to your children.

New Curriculum

Over the last few months we have worked in conjunction with the Lancashire authorities, parents, governors and children to produce a curriculum that will best serve our children whilst playing to the strengths of the school and the local area. We have worked tirelessly to make sure that our new curriculum will be practical, enjoyable and one that will see your children achieve to their potential and beyond. It will include visits and visitors linked to both the topic and the local area. Children will meet visitors to the school who they might one day aspire to be. Just one example is an Art & D.T. specialist who will work with each class throughout the year and create some breathtaking end products. We aim to make full use of our outdoor areas and link learning across the curriculum to the wonderful facilities we are blessed with. We hope that the children will enjoy it. Details of our new curriculum can be found on our website under 'Curriculum' and will be constantly updated throughout the year. Our statement of intent also reveals the full thinking behind its development.

Medication

As it is the start of a new school year, please could you also ensure that any children's medication which is kept in school is up-to-date, for example, asthma inhalers. We will routinely check that any medication your child has in school is up-to-date and if it is close to running out, we will inform you. Should there be a need for medication to be administered during the school day, parents must give written authority for a member of staff to administer the medicine by completing the form available from the office. Only prescribed medicine with the child's name clearly written on the bottle can be administered.

School Uniform

Could I please take this opportunity to remind you about school uniform. As shared with you previously, only white shirts are permitted from now on, polo tops are no longer part of our uniform. Boys should be in grey trousers with black shoes, and girls need grey skirts or trousers. Blue check summer dresses are allowed in warmer weather. Extravagant hair bows are not allowed; girls' hair should be tied up with a simple bobble, ties should be worn at all times. Earrings should also be plain silver or gold and must be either removed for P.E. or a plaster placed over them. If this doesn't happen then we as a school are breaking basic health and safety regulations and putting your child at risk of serious injury. Children in the juniors are permitted to wear trainers at playtime on the condition that they then change back into shoes before they go back to the classroom. Rucksacks are not allowed in school as we do not have room for them on the individual children's hooks. Children should bring a reading bag, a lunchbox if needed and a P.E. bag (which can stay in school until it needs washing). Anything extra that needs to be brought in should be done so in a plastic carrier bag please. It may be necessary for us to share some reminders about the above with you on an individual basis but please do not take offence if this is the case; I am sure you can all understand the importance of our children looking smart and complying with policy.

It is such a great privilege to be able to lead our wonderful school, talented staff and unique children. As a staff, we will continue to put every single effort into making your child's day at school both enjoyable and memorable. Our SATS results last year were some of the best we have ever had and a long way above national and Lancashire averages in every single area. I hope you feel safe in the knowledge that we will not rest until your child has achieved their full potential at our school. Your children are very important to us and are at the centre of all we do and every decision we make. I want to make it very clear to all parents that if you have any queries or concerns, do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of staff or myself. I will also make myself available whenever the need arises, whether you want to meet at school or get in touch via telephone. If I am not available, I will get back to you at the very first opportunity. I feel that as a school, we have a strong relationship with parents and I look forward to continuing to build on this over the coming year.

Just a reminder that there will be no celebration assembly this Friday due to the short week but next week's celebration assembly will be at the usual time of 9:05 a.m.

Enjoy the rest of the week!

Mr M.S.Mashiter