

St Mary's Church of



England Primary School

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HEADTEACHER: Mrs P A Hartley BEd (Hons), NPQH

DEPUTY HEAD: Mrs J Hardman BSc (Hons), QTS, NPQH

May 2021 Newsletter

"Love one another as Jesus loved us" (John 13 v 34-35)

Jesus said, Love one another as I have loved you.

Through God's love and our Christian Values we encourage each individual to love, respect and value themselves and others.

We encourage and nurture the growth of every individual and their uniqueness so that all flourish and become all that they can be and all that God made them to be

Dear Parents, Children & Friends,

We have had a busy few weeks of learning. It has been a pleasure to walk around the school and see pupils engaged in their learning, living out our Christian values and being polite and courteous. Last week all classes supported and raised the awareness of the importance of mental health as part of Mental Health Awareness Week. The theme this year was based around nature and your child should have brought home an envelope containing sunflower seeds and instructions on how to grow them. I hope that you will join in and plant your sunflower. We would love to see the sunflowers as they grow, please send pictures to your class teachers through Tapestry or Seesaw.

For more information about Mental Health Awareness please follow the link:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>

COVID UPDATE:

Following the government announcement on Monday 17th May for step 3 of the roadmap, the Department for Education has updated its schools coronavirus operational guidance.

Whilst as a country restrictions have eased, the guidance for schools has largely remained unchanged. Year group bubbles will still operate and the school day will still run as it does currently. Enhanced cleaning, hand washing and social distancing will remain in place. Face coverings are still recommended for staff in communal areas or where staff are unable to socially distance. Face coverings are not recommended for primary children in school. Parents are asked to adhere to social distancing guidance when on the school site but face masks are not required unless you wish to speak to member of staff, or you need to come into the school building.

As I am sure you can appreciate, nothing can be 'set in stone' regarding future plans. At the moment, we are hoping to have a Sports Day within our class bubbles but this will not be open to parents. We are also hoping to host a well-earned, end-of-year treat for all of our children. For our oldest children in Year 6, we have organised a special trip to Castleshaw with kayaking and teambuilding. We are still hoping and planning to host a very special Leavers Service which we will live stream to parents and also a Eucharist service to mark Year 6 final few weeks at St Mary's. More information will follow as the guidance changes in the coming weeks.



STAFFING:

At the end of the academic year we say goodbye to another long serving member of staff, Mrs Whitmore. Mrs Whitmore has worked at St Mary's for an incredible 26 years and has now taken the decision to retire to spend more time with her family and grandchildren. Mrs Whitmore will be hugely missed and we thank her for all her hard work and the dedication she has given to the school. I know you will join me in wishing her well in the new chapter of her life.

Mrs Hardman continues to make a good recovery. We hope to see her back in school after half term on a phased return. Mrs Barlow and Mrs Williams will continue to teach Year 2 during the transition and Mr Day will remain Acting Deputy Headteacher alongside Mrs Hardman until the end of the academic year.

We welcome a new member of staff, Miss Leigh who is currently working in Year 1 alongside Mrs Ernest and Mrs Adams.

A further appointment will be made for a Teaching Assistant and Midday Supervisor in the coming weeks.

ASSESSMENTS AND REPORTS:

Last week would have been SATs week for Year 6 and ordinarily this week we would be finalising Year 2 Teacher Assessments, the Reception Early Learning Goals and internal assessments for the other classes in school. However, as you are aware the DfE (Department for Education) informed all schools there will be no formal tests and examinations for primary aged pupils. There is however a requirement for schools to report on pupils achievements at the end of the academic year. With many pupils having only returned to school in March, we have decided to delay our teacher assessments until as late as possible. These final assessments will now take place mid-to-late June, allowing pupils to continue with their focused learning and our catch up programmes to have had a greater impact. Pupils achievements will be reported to parents at the end of the academic year. Due to the later assessment period, end of year reports will be sent home in the final week of term, week commencing 12th July, with an opportunity for a telephone appointment to be made, should you wish to discuss further with class teachers. This is a very short turn around for staff in school, but will provide the most accurate and upto date information about your child's achievements.

POLITE REMINDERS:

- Please ensure PE kits are brought into school in a **pump bag**; we are very limited in space and larger rucksacks are difficult to hang on pegs and accommodate.
- Please ensure all school uniform, including PE kits and school ties, are clearly labelled with your child's name so we can identify lost items and return to the correct pupil.
- We are a 'nut free zone' at school due to allergies, please do not send into schools foods containing nuts.
- A warm top is now only required for PE.

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK:

Dear Parents and Pupils,

Monday 24th May 2021 Walk To School Week

Next week is walk to school week.

Your target is to try to walk to school every day of the week !



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We are promoting the Walk to School week because we are trying to encourage children to increase their fitness and promote mental wellbeing. If you live further away from school, and normally travel to school in a car, please ask your parents to park your car further away from school and take a short walk. This will count as your steps and also improve safety because parking close to school can be very dangerous.

Walking to School everyday will improve your mental health and make the environment a better place. Don't forget that every day you have a healthy body you will have the right mind set for learning and for school.

If you take part, and we hope you will, you will be rewarded with badges and tickets AND every pupil who walks or strides to school next week will earn a minute reward for their class. The total number of minutes earned for their class will be redeemed next Friday in a treat afternoon. How exciting !

It would be wonderful if everybody in school tried to take part and improve their mental and physical wellbeing. Even a small change to your routine will make a big impact.

Thank you for participating in this event and Good Luck !

St. Mary's Health Champions

Scarlett, Alana, Isabelle

NEW RECEPTION INTAKE:

Parents and carers are invited to an Open Evening on Thursday 24th June at 6.00 p.m. At the meeting there will be an opportunity to meet key staff, purchase book bags and school ties, see the classroom, sample school meals and gather lots of information about St Mary's School. All arrangements are subject to Government Covid guidance and may need to be cancelled if Stage 4 of the Government Roadmap does not happen on the 21st June.

SCHOOL LUNCHES:

Thank you to all parents and pupils who completed the survey. We are now using this information and working with the catering staff and support teams to design a new school meals menu and provision. This will be launched in September and we will share the exciting launch with you before the end of the summer term.

WORSHIP:

**Our Christian
Value this term is:
TRUTHFULNESS**



Mother Katy continues to record worship for pupils to enjoy and participate in school based on our Christian Value. Please follow the link to our school website for further activities based on this value

<https://www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/TRUTHFULNESS.pdf>

Celebration Worship will continue to be hosted via Teams, until guidance states that we can return together for collective worship.

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT GROUP NEWS:

The next draw for the 150 club will be on Friday 28th May

The winning numbers from the last draw are :148, 97, 32, 111, 83, 143

We still have a few spare numbers for the 150 club. If you would like a number please see Gill Buckley or any member of the Support Group or ask at the School Office.

As always - thank you for your continued support.

Dates for your Diary:

Fri 11 th June	Year 6 Visit to Castleshaw
Fri 18 th June	Year 5 Visit too Crosby Beach (Curriculum Visit)
W/c 21 st June	National Sports Week
Thurs 24 th June	Proposed Class Bubble Sports Day KS 1
Fri 25 th June	Proposed Class Bubble Sports Day KS 2
Thurs 24 th June	New Reception Parents Visit 6pm (Subject to Covid restrictions)
Wed 30 th June	Y6 Transition Visits (Subject to Covid restrictions) New Reception Visits (Subject to Covid restrictions) Rec - Y5 Transition Morning to meet new Class Teacher
Thurs 1 st July	Y6 Transition Visits (Subject to Covid restrictions) New Reception Visits (Subject to Covid restrictions)
Tues 6 th July	School Eucharist, Key Stage 2 pupils only
Fri 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Service - Details to follow, but likely to be live streamed



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Kind Regards,

P.A Hartley
Headteacher