



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong

Diocese of Plymouth

8th May 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take the opportunity to update you on Mrs. Armstrong's health and the life of the school this week. Mrs. Armstrong is feeling better and continues to recover at home. She has asked us to pass on her thanks to you all for the many kind gifts and messages of support that you have sent her. Please continue to keep both the whole family and the wider school community in your prayers.

Last week's update introduced you to Ann Harris, our new Chair of Governors. I hope that those of you with an interest in joining the local governing body have been able to contact Ann who will be in school on a weekly basis as we continue with our work to improve St. Mary's. There will be further updates from Ann as her work progresses.

As the summer term continues, it is important to remember the importance of correct uniform. Our policy for this can be found on the website but the following points should also be noted:

- * Navy pinafore skirts for KS1 girls, not black please.
- * Plain white, grey or black socks please.
- * Simple, plain coloured hairbands without accessories attached please.
- * No black cardigans please.
- * No wristbands please.
- * Trainers are not to be worn at school, into school or home from school please.

As the weather improves the children will be encouraged to wear protective hats and sunglasses if they wish. The responsibility for looking after these remains with your child; please ensure that all items have a clear label. Sun cream should be applied at home before the start of the school day. Thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

Finally, I would like to share with you a story from a child in Year 2. She has been practising her tables using "Hit The Button" which is free, effective and requires no extra adult help to use. All your child needs to do is aim for 20 or more questions correct within one minute. You can find the link here:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>



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This young lady has not only improved her scores every week but has now taken to singing her tables in the car with a CD of times table tunes. The benefits of this for her education are absolutely enormous as they will set a blueprint for so much further progress in maths. Please see me if you would like to find out any more about helping your child with these basic skills at home; a working partnership between home and school has so many benefits for your child.

Yours faithfully,

R Howard

Mr. R. Howard
Acting Headteacher.