



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong  
Diocese of Plymouth

30<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week Mr Thomas and I have been able to visit all the classrooms and see all of the children in their working environment. I am pleased to share with you that the children have really settled well into the routines of their classrooms and their stamina to complete the tasks is increasing daily. They were all keen to share their best work with us and we are confident that the teachers are working hard to ensure that any gaps in their learning are covered. The catch-up programme is well under way again. Mrs Lomas who has worked at St Mary's in a variety of teaching roles over the years is supporting the children across Key Stage 2 and we have intervention groups and 1-1 sessions taking place throughout the day with our own staff.

We have been informed this week that the next stage of roadmap guidance for schools will be sent on the 10<sup>th</sup> May. As soon as we hear anything we will share the changes with you. Until then we thank you for your continued support with adhering to the message of hands, face, space at the forefront of everything that we do and appreciate that the majority of you are wearing a face mask when collecting or dropping off. Thank you.

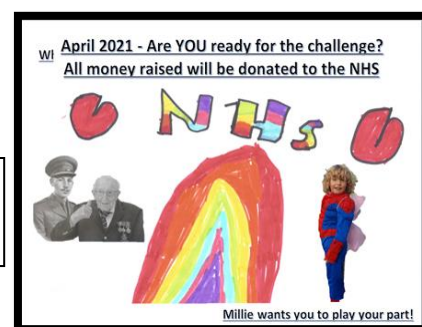


It has been lovely to hear live music in school this week and to see the sports club after school. I think it has been a real boost for both staff and children. Hearing them sing 'Happy Birthday' and singing the end of day prayer has been very special. Today I went in to Year 1 to listen to their singing and instrument playing, please take a look at our Facebook page where I will upload the video.



Today we supported Millie in Year 3 who is raising money by doing 100 things! Thank you for your kind donations. We raised an amazing £409.67 and she has £700 on her justgiving site. I chatted to Millie this morning and she said, "Thank you everyone in the school for helping me to raise money like Captain Tom for the NHS" I asked her how she felt and she said, "extraordinarily happy!" She shared with me that the reason she wanted to raise money for the NHS was because they had helped her lot. Thank you for all of the donations, there is still time to donate via the link below..

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/millie100?utm\\_medium=qr&utm\\_source=offline&utm\\_term=5dd2d6481](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/millie100?utm_medium=qr&utm_source=offline&utm_term=5dd2d6481)



**"Inspiring each other to learn, in the light of Christ"**

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Take a look at some of the exciting challenges that took place in school today!



Our multi-academy trust Plymouth CAST is seeking the views of all parents across all the schools. Please see the link below for the Parent Survey that they have created. Please could we ask you to respond online by **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021**. <https://www.qdpsurvey.co.uk/OnlineQuestionnaire?code=39763-34432-26193153>



A gentle reminder that each week the teachers set homework for the children to complete using the IXL programme. Unfortunately, only 58% of our children accessed IXL last week. The tasks set for the children are recorded on the 'Google Classrooms'. Hopefully next week we will get back to 95% which is where we were before Christmas.

As we approach the summer season and the weather starts heating up, please keep encouraging your children to wear hats, bring water bottles and applying sun cream. We will do everything we can to keep them cool, hydrated, and will take shaded breaks where necessary. Here's to an exciting and energising last couple of terms. *A short video for the 5 rules of sun protection* <https://youtu.be/zYIsP9dKNoq>



Please don't forget if you are struggling to buy the correct uniform then you can always email the office as we have got lots of good quality second uniform which may help you. Please could we remind you to name your child's uniform as they tend to take cardigans and jumpers off in the summer months and it is very difficult to return unnamed uniform.



We are planning to hold a celebration assembly to celebrate children's achievements in sports. This will be led by the sport leaders with support from Mrs Evans and Mr Vince. Please could you send in photos and information about their children's achievements via email.



As I shared with you last week we are introducing the children to virtues this term. A virtue is a **good habit of the mind, by which we live righteously, of which no one can make bad use, which God works in us, without us.** The theological virtues are **Faith, Hope, and Charity (Love)**. These virtues are gifts given to us by God freely and it is up to us to decide whether or not we want to accept and use them.

I am pleased to share with you that there are lots more house points this week. Thank you to you all for contributing.

**RED – 176**

**Blue - 217**

**Green – 178**

**Yellow – 203**

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

*Helen Armstrong*

Helen Armstrong  
Headteacher