



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong  
Diocese of Plymouth

6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term. Thank you to you all for making the new times work. We really appreciate how prompt you are being with the timings. Please can you try not to drive up Devon road as it means you have to do a 3-point turn which is dangerous for those walking up the road.

As we enter this 'Lockdown' I am sure that we continue to work together to ensure that our staff and children stay safe and well. The government and our academy trust 'Plymouth CAST' have released lots of new guidelines this week. The staff will continue to wear masks in communal areas but when they are in the classroom with the children they will be wearing clear visors or masks. I know a lot of you are already doing this but please could we ask that when you arrive to collect your children that you also wear a mask.



We are having to make sure that all rooms are well ventilated and although the weather has been lovely and bright this week it has been cold. Please could you ensure that your child wears extra layers to ensure they are warm when working.

It is essential that we know as soon as possible when a member of the family or a child tests positive for COVID 19 or is self-isolating, and we ask that, **even if this is in the evening or at weekend**, you email the office email asap and we will make sure that it is regularly checked. [office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk)

If your child is having to self-isolate then they will find the work set for them on 'Google Classrooms'. Those coming to school each day will not need to do that work just their homework on IXL. There is a new link on the website which will help you under the Children heading called My Links. The idea being that all the links to the platforms the children use at home can be found in one place



Unfortunately we have also been directed to close our sport clubs until further notice. Before school and after school (BASC) will continue to operate.

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

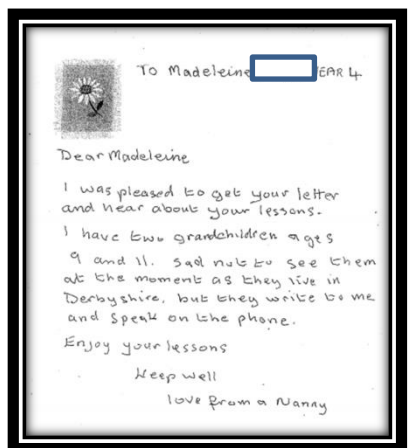
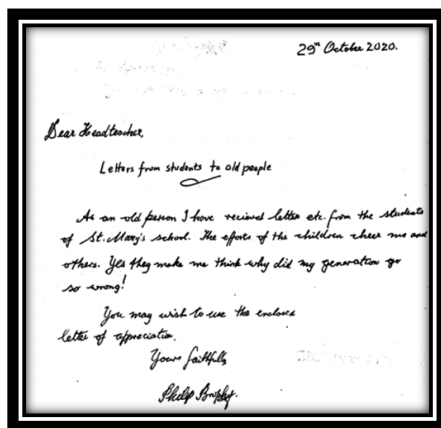
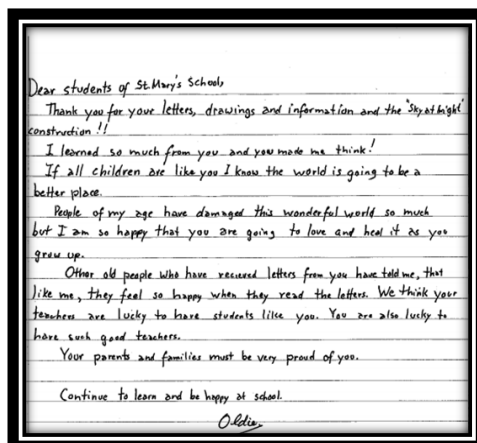
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Just before half term we were asked by the SVP to make and send things to the 'older people' of our parish. In the hustle and bustle of life, in the ordinary parts and stressful parts sometimes a request seems a difficult ask. However all the year groups did something and this week we started to receive replies.



So we need to say thank you for asking, thank you for reading and thank you for replying. For a moment we paused and remembered what is important - the community we are part of.



Hopefully you have all managed to sign up for 'Parent Consultations' which will take place on, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> November, between 3.30-6.30pm. I have all my fingers and toes crossed that the technology does not let us down.

Flynn in Year 1 wanted to share his amazing RE work with me this week but I was on a 'Zoom' meeting. The children were asked to produce a picture to reflect the Lord's Prayer. Flynn chose to do this completely independently and was able to explain it in detail what the picture represented. I was so impressed I wanted to share it with you.

Our congratulations go to Annabelle and Sienna in Year 6 who recently completed at the National Dance championships (virtually). Sienna made it through several heats and Annabelle made it through to the semi-finals putting her in the top 12 in the country.

Also to Codey in Year 4 who achieved his 50 metre award for swimming and his Angelfish 2 award.

Well done Codey!



Today we had our very first virtual coffee morning with the PTA and the Y1 parents. I also have great news to share with you that 4 parents have come forward to join the new committee. If you would like to join there is still time, please let the office know. The PTA AGM will be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm. A zoom link will be sent.

Please don't forget that we have virtual coffee morning for Foundation parents and carers on November 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am – details are on the school website.



Unfortunately this year we are unable to sell poppies for remembrance day but this does not mean that we will not be 'Remembering'. On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11am we will remember all those who have lost their lives and on the Friday Year 6 will be leading us in a 'Remembrance Liturgy'



Look at the poppies Year 2 have been busy making today after they learnt why the poppy became a symbol and remembered the service personnel who made such sacrifices.

The following week we will be taking part in Anti-bullying week and Mr Lakatos will send more details about this next week.

This weeks the 'House Points' were:

**Red 240**

**Yellow 249**

**Blue 269**

**Green 271**



Finally, I would like to share with you our plans for giving to those in need during Advent. We plan to hold a 'Reverse Advent Calendar'. Each class will have a day when in return for wearing their own clothes to school they will bring an item for a Christmas hamper. These hampers will then be distributed to families, people in the community and the food bank to help those who need a little bit of extra help. If you know of a family that you think would benefit from a hamper then please let the office know. More details will follow in Advent.

Yours faithfully,

*Helen Armstrong*

Helen Armstrong  
Headteacher

