



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

*Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth*

3rd July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all the positive messages we have received this week. We are working on our plans for September and how we are going to facilitate all the children back safely in 'Bubbles' at school following the Government and Plymouth CAST guidelines. This will be shared with you as soon as it has been passed by the Trust's Board. The key piece of information that I need to share with you is that, as a supportive measure for all schools to assist the complex task of re-opening fully in September, the Trust has mandated the two days at the beginning of term. This means that we have had to change our inset days for 2020-2021.

Inset days for Autumn term:

Thursday 3rd September 2020

Friday 4th September 2020

Friday 11th September 2020

At the moment our teachers are working hard thinking about the recovery curriculum that will be in place for the children in September. This will focus on wellbeing and assessing where they are e.g. reflective activities, school routines (and why these are necessary), some different pieces of writing, listen to children read etc. I can promise that it will not involve testing!

The teachers are also working on transition and have Zoom meetings planned over the next 2 weeks so they can share information about their classes with your child's receiving teacher. All year groups will be making a video which will be posted in the Google Classroom by the middle of next week which will include: the class teachers introducing themselves, what the school looks like, how to travel around school e.g. routes to their door, general Covid 19 information such as the tables facing the front, that we wash our hands thoroughly and frequently, but most importantly what is planned for next year and what exciting things they will be doing! All staff are currently making comments on the stream in Google Classrooms which the children can answer and ask questions on. Moving forward we will be keeping the Google Classroom and using it next year so if you have not logged on yet and cannot find your instructions to do so please get in touch with the office.

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

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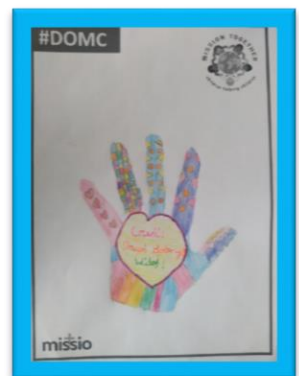
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Mrs Reyes and I are excited that the photographs for the Virtual Bake Off are beginning to arrive in school. Some of you are being very adventurous with your extra added ingredients. Keep them coming in! The closing date is July 10th. I have designed my cake and hope it all works out over the weekend! Wish me luck!



On Monday we celebrated Missio's **Day of Many Colours**. The children in school wore bright colours to school. Hopefully you all had the opportunity to take part in the special assembly. I was amazed at how many of you took part in the "Reaching Out" art activity, it was fantastic to receive so many welcoming hands. We got so many I was able to tweet 39 tweets. Thank you to you all. Here are just a few of the amazing designs and the display we have produced in school. If you would still like to make a donation to support Children Helping Children to provide education, nutrition, medical care and shelter for children living in poverty around the world then please visit the Mission website <https://missiontogether.org.uk/donate-now/>.



Today our Year 6 children in school and hopefully at home participated in the Y6 Leavers' Mass Online with Bishop Mark. It was an opportunity to unite all pupils in Year 6 across our Diocese. Please can I ask you all to join in the closing prayer at some point today, even if you were not able to view the Mass at 11am (you can watch it here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzueKKlw86E>) and think of all our children who will be moving onto to secondary school in September:

*Thank you for all the wonderful things we have learnt at this school
and all the fantastic friends we have made.
Thank you for all the wonderful teachers and other staff who have
worked so hard for us.
Thank you for our parents who have helped us to grow up.
Care for us as your children,
and help us not to worry about the changes ahead of us.
Help us to remember that you are always with us.
Help us to build a strong community in our new school.
Assist us as we try every day to be better global citizens,
thinking how our small actions can help to make the world a better place.
Amen.*



Here is some wonderful reflective work by the Year 6 children in school who were thinking about what difference they have made to the St Mary's community since starting at our school.



As we prepare for our return in September I wanted to let you know that we have lots of good quality second hand uniform available in school. If there is something you require please send an email to the office stating what you would like and the size and we will let you know if we have what you require and you can come and collect it.



Thank you for your patience and your continued support. If you need any help, support or advice please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

Helen Armstrong

Helen Armstrong
Headteacher