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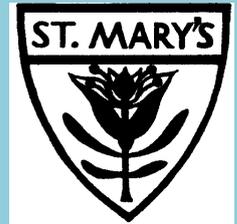


Archdiocese of Birmingham

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God is at the centre of our lives and as a school community we try to grow in love and care by following the example of Jesus



Friday 25th September 2020

Dear **Year 2** parents,

Welcome back to a new year at St Mary's and a very different 'Meet The Teacher' experience! For those of you that don't know me, I'm **Miss Dainty** and I've really enjoyed meeting your children and finding out about the different experiences each of them have had over the past few months. They are a lovely class, and although things are still rather strange, they seem to be enjoying being in school to learn and seeing their friends again.

Day to day

Y2 should **arrive between 9:00 and 9:10am** and should be **collected at 3:10pm** from the designated area (under the shelter for Y2 parents).

School bags / book bags are not necessary at the moment. In Year 2, children have their own **tray** in class with their books and stationery in. This helps avoid contamination and also helps them to learn responsibility for their own things.

Please ensure your child brings a **water bottle** into school every day.

School lunches are provided **free of charge** for children in Year 2. **Fruit** is provided at snack-time, or children are welcome to bring their own **healthy** snack. If you are sending children to school with a packed lunch, please ensure they are able to **open** all of the items in their lunchbox unaided to help keep both the children and staff safe.

We are currently operating staggered break and lunchtimes. Y2 have a section of the playground to use at playtimes and are eating their sandwiches in the classroom. More details on hot lunches as we move into the colder months will be sent out through the office.

Y2 will try to learn outdoors as much as the weather allows, helping prevent spread of the virus - please ensure your child brings a **coat** to school every day.

If children wish to do show and tell, please upload a photograph to Class Dojo rather than bringing things in from home.

As I'm sure you are now aware, Mrs Handley has a job in another school - we wish her well! The school is advertising for a new Teaching Assistant, and we are currently supported in Year 2 by **Mrs Smith**.

Reading and Homework

Reading should take place at home every day. Reading books will be given out at the beginning of each week and are to be **returned on Friday mornings only**. To ensure Covid 19 does not spread within the school or the next reader's home, please do NOT send your child into school with their reading book until Friday. On Friday mornings, there will be seven boxes on the playground - one for each class. Please drop your child's book into the relevant box. After a quarantine period, staff will check off returns against their list in class and issue new books.

Oxford Owls will still be available for extra reading and activities. Click on My Class Login and enter the username (**stmaryscannockyear2**) and the password (**year2**). You can then search for books using the bookshelf.

I will send out a reminder of your child's **BGFL** and **Times Tables Rockstars** logins so that you can also access these at home. In Year 2, we focus on the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

'Official' **homework** will soon be given out again - I will post via Dojo / email on **Fridays**. Please **upload** a photograph of your child's homework before the following **Wednesday**.

Phonics and SATs

Year 2 will continue with the reading aspect of the RWI programme this year, and will be split into 2 groups only (within the class bubble). For writing, whole class English lessons will be taught.

The current government guidance is that Year 2 will take their missed **Phonics Check** in November / December and that **SATs** will go ahead in May. More details on this to follow.

Curriculum

Topics we will discover in Year 2 are Nurturing Nurses, Celebrate and Remember, Hot and Cold, Continents and Oceans, Comparing Cannock to a Coastal Town and the Great Fire of London.

This half-term we are also taking part in school-wide themed weeks such as the Nativity of Mary, the Battle of Britain and Spanish.

Please see the class page of the school website to find our **Curriculum Map** for Autumn 1. This will be updated each half-term on the website.

PE - please note the change of day

PE days in Year 2 are **Monday** (sports coach) and from next week will be **Wednesday** (Miss Dainty). **Please send your child to school in their PE kit on these days** and ensure long hair is tied back and earrings are removed / covered. The weather this half-term is very changeable - please consider whether shorts or jogging bottoms are most appropriate for the weather forecast that day.

ICT

This year, each class is being allocated a day each week to have either the **iPad** trolley or the **ICT** room to allow safe ICT access. These are cleaned at the end of the day between each user.

Worship

Assemblies are happening online via Teams for each class to access in class. **Class Masses** will begin to take place in the hall on Fridays (one class only, no singing and no parents or members of the parish will be invited). Year 2's first Class Mass is due to take place on Friday 9th October.

General

Please ensure your **contact details** are up-to-date with the office and check **Class Dojo** for behaviour points and weekly updates on our learning.

If your child or a member of your household is ill, please inform the office immediately and **do not** send your child to school for 14 days or until a negative test has been confirmed and sent to the school. Please also let the school know if a positive case is confirmed to allow anyone who may have been in contact with a positive case to be informed.

Go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> for up-to-date advice and call the school and / or 111 if you are unsure.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school to arrange a telephone appointment or feel free to introduce yourself on Class Dojo (**any concerns/ important questions or messages to go through the office please**).

Miss Dainty ☺

