

## ST MARY'S NEWS

Thank you for all your support during an extremely challenging first half term back. It has been so very different - we miss our parents being able to come into school especially for whole school assemblies such as Morning Prayer. However, thank you for supporting us as we adapt to this new way of working. Also, a huge thank you to all our staff for all the support and care in place for our children and for their constant willingness to adapt and be flexible as we take on new challenges.

### **BRAVO**

We have attempted a virtual whole school BRAVO assembly this week. Each class teacher from EYU to Class 11 have awarded 2 children the Bravo award for this first half term. This could be an always child-always kind, always ready to learn, always friendly to others etc. Or it could be someone who has shown improvement/progress in an area or an outstanding piece of work.

Congratulations to:

EYU	Ivy Hartley and Jackson Pee
Class 2	Lacey Wilkinson and Rory Threadgold
Class 4	Grace Anderson and Florence Cox
Class 5	Ruby Broadhurst and Freddie White
Class 6	Enaan Ahmad and Devon Callaghan
Class 7	Riley Hinchliffe and Matilda Walker
Class 8	Florence Taylor and Henry Hill
Class 9	Frankie Ingham and Keilan Parnell
Class 10	Megan Middleton and Mia Paluch
Class 11	Finn McCabe and Skyla Gowlett
Mrs Spivey	Scarlett McDaid and Eliza Hepworth
Miss Liversidge	Harvey Hill and Adyan Hussain
Mrs Hetherington	Magda Sosna, Jayden McClean and Lucas Lamb

We have managed to get through the first half term with all the 'bubbles' intact and no closures. However, we have to be prepared for all eventualities. In the event of any bubble closures, we have to provide home learning opportunities through online learning platforms. Tapestry has been adopted already in the Early Years Unit (Class 1) and in all other classes we have reactivated Seesaw.

**SEESAW and TAPESTRY** -A couple of weeks ago the Seesaw codes and how to access it were sent home. Please note you need to activate both accounts-family and individual. Please be assured that your child will not be able to see the work of any other student in the class. With both learning platforms we will also utilise them during the term throughout the year to showcase learning. If you have any difficulties logging in, then please let us know when we return after half term so that we can resolve any issues. We hope that you and your child find these platforms useful. We do have a number of children isolating at the current time and this is the only way to access the class work whilst they are off but we can see they haven't activated their accounts.

**GUIDANCE FOR ISOLATING**- if anyone in your household develops symptoms of coronavirus they should book a test. At that point the **WHOLE** household should isolate until the test result comes back. If negative all can return to work or school. If positive, then the person who has the virus isolates for 10 days but the rest of the household have to isolate for 14 days from start of symptoms. This is because the virus can be incubating for up to 14 days.

If a family member is sent home from work, school or advised they are a close contact by track and trace it is **JUST** that person who has to isolate and not the whole family.

**PARENTS EVENING-** unfortunately we are still in restrictions that mean no face to face contact. As this parents evening is usually about how the children are settling in, attitude to learning etc. we will produce a mini report card which will come home after half term. Once you have received this mini report you will be able to contact the class teacher for further explanation if necessary through the parent seesaw app so please can you make yourself an account using the details that have already come home.

**NON UNIFORM DAY-** thank you for your outstanding contributions today. We are amazed and very grateful by the amount of tins, dried food and toiletries you have sent in. These will now be donated to the local foodbank.

**ARRANGEMENTS OVERHALF TERM-** we have to prepare for our first positive result within our school community (staff or child) so if you or a family member test positive please email school so we can work out how long your child will have to isolate and be absent from school after half term. **However, if your child tests positive, please ring school asap as we will have to potentially inform the whole class bubble to self-isolate immediately.**

**CAULIFLOWER CARDS-** your child should have brought home their Christmas Card design. If you wish to place an order, please return the design to school by Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November as we have to post it to the company for printing to be sure they're back for Christmas. All payments are made online not via the school office.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM-** just a gentle reminder that we do have a set school uniform. School skirts should be at least knee length; skin tight and mid-thigh is unsuitable. Girls can wear trousers but they should not be skin tight leggings. We know some children are still wearing shorts which is fine as long as they understand we have to keep the windows and doors open for ventilation so the classrooms are colder than usual. As we hit the wetter, colder weather your child will need tracksuit bottoms and trainers for PE outside. Please send PE kit every Monday and then take home every Friday. Children do not require indoor pumps at the current time. Please LABEL all uniform in case jumpers and cardigans in particular are misplaced or picked up by the wrong child.

## DIARY DATES

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct School closed for staff INSET day

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov School reopens for pupils.

Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov- last day for Christmas card design to be returned (please pay online)

Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Flu nasal spray vaccine

**GOODBYE** we sadly say goodbye to Heather in the office this week. We wish her all the very best in her new job. Becky will be in the office Mon-Fri from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Have a safe and relaxing half term. Looking forward to seeing you all back on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Take care and don't forget the clocks go back on Saturday night.

The school office remains closed to parents so please ring or email any queries to [office@stmarysbatley.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarysbatley.co.uk)