

ST MARY'S NEWS

Ethos statement for this week and next week:

I can work, play, rest and pray each day.

Simple things can make us happy.

Our Virtue for December is PATIENCE.

"Love is patient and kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4)

Superkids and Star of the Week

We are still awarding superkid/star of the week certificates for hard work, kindness, achievement etc. Although we cannot have an assembly to share these awards we are having class presentations instead.

November 20th and 27th:

EYU: Teegan Price, Ethan Murray, Hollie Walshaw and Lydia Quinn

Class 2: Aresha Khan and Zahra Zahir

Class 4: Frankie Oates and Raven McCabe

Class 5: Harvey Hill and Atif Naseer

Class 6: Jenson Maher and Millie Ware

Class 7: Brooke Wilkinson and Patrick Pinder

Class 8: Antoni Korytko and Deacon Dhers

Class 9: Taylor Hosier and Imogen Gibbons

Class 10: Oscar White and Breña Dyer-Oates

Class 11: Chloe You and Nathaniel Walker

Miss Liversidge: Peyton Hall

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Children can bring Christmas cards into school from next week but we have to take precautions. Each class will have its own post box for the children to put their cards. These can be brought in **Monday to Thursday only** each week. They will then be left over the weekend when they can then be sorted and given out to bring home. Children can bring cards for children who are not in their class but these are still posted in their own class post box so please make sure the class is clearly marked on.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We know families' finances have been impacted due to the Lockdown and more households being furloughed or losing their jobs. Even if your child usually brings a packed lunch or is in Yr R-2 and is given a meal in school you can still claim for Free School Meals. In the event of further lockdown or if your child has to self-isolate you would be eligible for help towards lunches. It has been announced that at Christmas all families who are in receipt of free school meals will be given a £15 voucher for each week for each child in the family. So if you have 1 eligible child you receive £30, 2 eligible children £60, 3 eligible children £90 and so on.

Please go to www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolmeals or ring 01484 221928 to see if you can claim.

IF A CHILD IN SCHOOL TESTS POSITIVE OVER THE WEEKEND PLEASE EMAIL

head@stmarysbatley.co.uk immediately as we will have to notify emergency planning Kirklees and decide if a class bubble has to close. This gives us chance to inform the relevant staff and families via text and then letter (which comes via email). Thank you.

MILK for the Spring Term

Milk is now payable for January until Easter. It is £11.50 payable through Parent Pay (but free if you are in receipt of Free School Meals). The deadline is Friday 18th December.

FOOD

We understand for some children that lunch is quite a bit later than normal so might need a snack at break time. We do follow healthy eating so a piece of fruit is fine but please do not send crisps or cake or sweets etc. We also ask that no nuts are sent into school.

If your child brings grapes could you please cut them in half lengthways as they are a choking hazard. Thank you.

ILLNESS and MEDICINE

As the local infection rates continues to give cause for concern we are being extremely vigilant and cautious if a child becomes unwell in school. **We will contact parents if a child has headache, temperature, cough or sore throat.** We won't administer any pain relief in these cases as it may mask symptoms of the virus. If your child requires antibiotics and they are well enough to be in school, we will continue to administer that medicine.

Please do not send your child to school if they are showing any symptoms as we do not want a bubble to have to close and the families all be isolating on Christmas Day.

EMAIL ADDRESSES and MOBILE NUMBERS

If we have to close a bubble initially a text will be sent to the families who have to isolate due to being considered a close contact. Following that all school families would receive a letter-one reporting your child has to isolate or 1 reporting we have a positive case in school but your child does not have to isolate Please make sure the office has both an up to date mobile number and an email address that we can contact you on especially with letter attachments regarding information if your class bubble has to close.

VIRTUAL CAROL SERVICE

Fr Eamonn is currently recording a virtual carol service to be shared online before Christmas. As soon as we get further details we will pass them onto you.

BUBBLE CLOSURE

Class 7 has closed due to a positive test result. We have contacted those considered close contact who are all now self-isolating. Track and Trace have discussed the case with the family and we can confirm that the class and staff can return to school on **Monday 7th December**. The rest of school remains open. Online learning will start on Monday for those affected.

The school office remains closed to parents so please ring or email any queries to office@stmarysbatley.co.uk