



Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

## Welcome Back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a relaxing and fun holiday with your families and have also managed to stay healthy and safe. The staff and I are very much looking forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday, we have missed YOU!

In the letter I sent out to you in the Summer term, I explained some of the changes that you should expect from September, please read this before the children come back on Monday so they are well prepared.

Enjoy your weekend and we will see you all on Monday! 😊

Mrs. Linley and the St. Mark's Team

## Updated information on isolation expectations:

### When to self-isolate

Self-isolate straight away and get a PCR test (a test that is sent to the lab) on GOV.UK as soon as possible if you have any of these 3 symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

You should also self-isolate straight away if:

- you've tested positive for COVID-19 – this means you have the virus
- someone you live with has symptoms or tested positive (unless you are not required to self-isolate – check below if this applies to you)
- you've been told to self-isolate following contact with someone who tested positive – find out what to do if you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app

### When you do not need to self-isolate

If someone you live with has symptoms of COVID-19, or has tested positive for COVID-19, you will not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS
- you're under 18 years, 6 months old
- you're taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial

- you're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Even if you do not have symptoms, you should still:

- get a [PCR test on GOV.UK](#) to check if you have COVID-19
- follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#)
- consider limiting contact with [people who are at higher risk from COVID-19](#)

Please note: Children do not need to isolate if a member of their household tests positive for Covid-19, UNLESS they test positive or display symptoms .

## If you test positive, you should tell people you've been in close contact with that you have symptoms

Tell people you've been in close contact with in the past 48 hours that you might have COVID-19.

You should tell them to follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#).

They do not need to self-isolate unless they're contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service.

If they get any symptoms of COVID-19, they should self-isolate and get a test as soon as possible.

**Please see further information on the NHS website:**

**<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>**

### OUR EXPECTATIONS REMAIN HIGH FOR YOUR CHILD

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD ATTENDS SCHOOL EVERY DAY AND IS PUNCTUAL. ATTENDING SCHOOL EVERY DAY WILL GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST CHANCES IN LIFE AND EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT REGULAR ATTENDANCE EQUALS GREATER OPPORTUNITY. TEACHING STARTS WHEN SCHOOL STARTS, THEREFORE, YOUR CHILD WILL NEVER MISS OUT ON IMPORTANT LESSONS IF THEY ARE ON TIME. THE START OF THE SCHOOL DAY IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER DEVELOP IMPORTANT SOCIAL SKILLS WITH EACH OTHER, CHILDREN AND ADULTS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO ESTABLISH GOOD HABITS NOW. IT ALL ADDS UP!**

**WE REQUEST THAT YOU MAKE APPOINTMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS, BUT WE KNOW SOMETIMES, THIS CANNOT BE AVOIDED. WE THEREFORE REQUEST THAT YOU PROVIDE THE SCHOOL WITH EVIDENCE OF ANY SUCH APPOINTMENTS.**

Every Day  
+  
On Time  
+  
Attendance  
= Academic Success

## **Inspiration Day!**

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September, we will be holding our first Inspiration Day of this year. Please support your child's love of the curriculum and help them to get dressed up to represent the History topic they are studying this half term. To help you, we have given you some ideas...



Class	History Topic	Suggested attire
Reception	All about me!	Own clothes likes/hobbies
Year 1	Mary Seacole	Nurses, Doctors and other Healthcare workers
Year 2	Fire! Fire!	Great fire of London, early Victorian baker, fire fighter
Year 3	Egyptians	Mummies, Pharoahs
Year 4	Romans	Soldiers, Celts, Boudicca
Year 5	Mayans	Tribal, Camouflage, explorer
Year 6	World War II	Evacuee, Soldiers and war time clothing



## P.E. Days in School

As mentioned in the Summer term letter, please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school on the correct day for P.E. As children will no longer be required to come into school on P.E. days dressed in their P.E. kits. School uniform is expected to be worn at ALL times, including appropriate footwear.

Day for P.E.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Class	Y2 & Y5	Reception	Y4, Y3 & Y1	Y1, Reception, Y2 & Y5/6 swimming	Y3, Y6 & Y4

We are also delighted to have had a brand new all-weather facility installed over the holidays. All children will have opportunities to use it and we will be holding a multi-sports 'Sports Day' alternative on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September** which parents will be invited to attend. More details to follow.

Additionally, there are a number of extra-curricular activities being offered this term. There will be a separate letter in order to give consent, then sign up and pay via ParentPay.

## School Planner Expectations

Please ensure your child's school planner is in school every day and is taken home at the end of each day. There is a wealth of information in the pupil planners and they have been updated this year, so please take some time to familiarise yourselves with them and our expectations on how to use them. In particular, your child's reading record is in your child's planner and it is also where homework and notes from your child's class teacher are recorded.

Lost planners cost £2.00 to replace and these can be obtained from the school office.



## Interventions – Raising pupil progress so your child achieves greater success!

Following on from assessment data gathered from last year, one of the priorities we are focussing on this half term is writing. It is clear that the interventions we organised in the Summer term had a positive impact

on children's reading. Following on from this, we have identified children in need of receiving further targeted support. Parents of children that have been identified will receive a letter on Monday. Please support your child and ensure that they attend the intervention sessions as the sessions cost the school money. Last term some parents asked for interventions not to be on the same day as the after school clubs. We have tried our best to ensure that children do not miss out on an after school club of their choice, however, the interventions we will be offering, will only be provided for a limited time unlike the after school clubs so **please prioritise the writing interventions**.

## Prayer for A New School Year

**God of wisdom and might,**  
we praise you for  
the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.  
Be with our children  
as they begin a new school year.  
Bless them and their teachers  
and staff. Give them strength and  
grace as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds  
as they search for understanding;  
and peace and zeal to their hearts.  
We ask this through  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**