



St Mary's RC Primary School
Newsletter
Friday 23rd October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,
I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your continued support and in particular for continuing to wear a face mask (or sunflower lanyard if you are exempt) at drop off and collection, alongside social distancing wherever possible. The Government ask that we all remember the 'Hands, Face, Space' slogan ensuring we wash our hands regularly, cover our face and maintain our social distancing as much as possible. This is all part of our drive to keep all our school community safe.



Nuts

Some of our pupils do have nut allergies and therefore we are a nut free school. We kindly request that children's snacks and lunchboxes do not contain items which have nuts, this includes but is not limited to Nutella sandwiches, granola bars, treats or other food that contain nuts. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.



Usain Bolt Retweet!



Our Reception class have worked really hard on their Black History Topic focusing on Usain Bolt, so hard in fact that Usain himself retweeted St Mary's on his Twitter page! Fabulous work Reception, keep it up!

Staff News

After half term, we welcome back Miss Hardwick to class 3B after her Maternity leave. A big thank you to Mr Butler who is going to be leaving us on Friday, we wish him Good Luck for the future!
Congratulations to Mrs Lyons who has recently been appointment as our new School Business Manager.

Secondary School Applications

Parents/carers must make an online application to the local authority where the school of their choice is, probably Rochdale. It could also be Manchester or Bury or Oldham. Look on the LA websites for details. For Rochdale, the link is:

<http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schooladmissions/secondaryadmissions/Pages/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place.aspx>

The Rochdale deadline is 2nd November, for other areas 31st October.

School Records

Could we ask all parents/carers to please notify the school office should your child's health/allergy status change and if your contact details change in any way. Thank you for your support.

Half Term

**School closes today for one week half term.
We return to school on Monday 2nd
November 2020.**

Pupil Premium Funding

We would like to make you aware that if you are in receipt of one or more benefits, your child may be eligible for free school meal funding. Children entitled to Free School Meals (also known as pupil premium funding) can choose to access school meals and subsidies for school milk, trips and visits. In addition, the school budget benefits from the grant which is used to impact on children's progress and development by allowing school to improve teaching and learning facilities, resources and training. If you are the parent/carer of an infant child, even though you are entitled to Universal Free School Meals you may still be able to claim pupil premium that supports the school budget. Please enquire for further information. To apply please visit <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/pdf/2018-03-13-free-school-meals-application-v1.pdf>

Black History Month



Our children had so much fun in the African dance workshops as part of Black History Month! You can visit our school Twitter page to see more @stmarysrcmidd

Reception Class Applications

Do you have a child born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017? If so, please can I remind you that you must apply for them to start school online before 15th January 2021. You can apply via:

<http://rochdale.gov.uk/schooladmissions>. Even if your child already attends our Nursery class, you **must** still apply!

Despite everything that is going on and the restrictions that we find ourselves living under, I am sure that you will agree the first half term certainly has flown by. How quickly the children and in fact the whole community has adapted to the new procedures was admirable. It has also been impressive to see how quickly our Reception children settled into full-time education and all our Nursery children certainly made a positive start to their educational journey with us. Have a lovely half term break and we will see you on Monday 2nd November!

Yours Sincerely

Mrs S Geddis
Headteacher