# Newsletter

### 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4EU http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com



Welcome to this week's newsletter.

### Mass Online

Great news for anyone who is enjoying participating in the Mass via live-streaming. Frs Peter and Alan have set up a little 'studio' in the sitting room of the presbytery and are now live-streaming daily Mass.

The web address for the Mass is <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCJ</u> <u>4RA2ocNUgNNombaKiy5A</u> Press the Subscribe button to add to your list of favourite channels. The times of the Masses will be as follows: *Each Sunday 10:00 and 11:30 Daily 10:00* 

# Tweet of the Week

In the midst of isolation when we are suffering from a lack of tenderness and chances to meet up, and we experience the loss of so many things, let us once again listen to the proclamation that saves us: Christ is risen and is living by our side.

# Safeguarding

Please be reassured that although the school is closed to most children, we are still here to support you and your family. If you have any safeguarding concerns please email <u>admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk</u> and Mrs Berry will contact you directly.

Dear Parents and Carers

We continue to miss seeing you all and it has been lovely to have emails and letters letting us know how you are doing. Please keep these coming, we love seeing what you are up to. It is great to hear that many families have been enjoying bike rides, baking, board games and also most importantly being kind to each other.

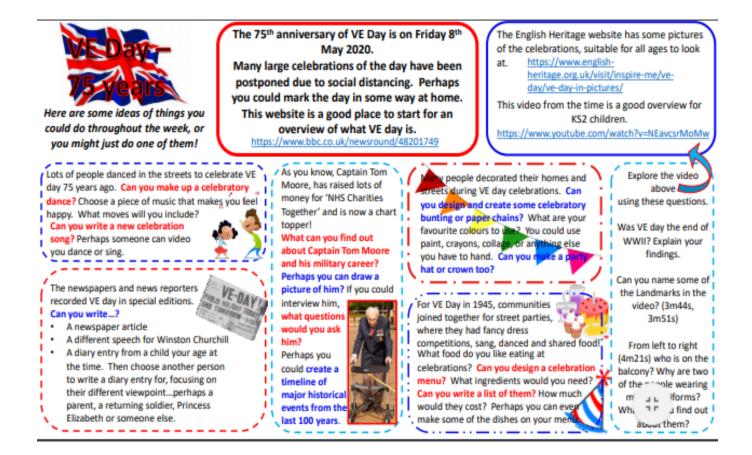
I hope that you get an opportunity to celebrate VE day as a family today. Let me know how you have decided to mark the day. Below there are some ideas of things you may like to do to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day.

Remember if you need to call us or get in touch with us then please do, I'm afraid we don't have any answers about when we may potentially open but we can help with any home learning questions.

Be kind to yourself and each other.

God Bless you all,

Mrs Berry





The Department of Education has gathered together some advice for parents during this period of school closure due to the coronavirus This advice can be found at

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-duringcoronavirus-covid-19

Remember, no one expects parents to act as teachers, or to provide the activities and feedback that we would at school. If you have any questions and concerns please keep in contact with the school. We are here to help and want to support parents and carers to do their best to help children and support their learning.

Daily Prayers for home https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/daily-prayers-for-home

# Sunday Liturgy for Families

https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/sunday-liturgy-for-families

# Free School Meals message to parents from Suffolk County Council facebook page

# FOR INFORMATION | ALL SCHOOLS

Free School Meal Update:

Due to the current Coronavirus pandemic, we are receiving a very high volume of applications and emails regarding free school meals. We are processing these as quickly as possible and your patience is greatly appreciated. Please read the following information which may answer your enquiry:

You must be in receipt of income related free school meals in order to qualify for a free school meal whilst the schools are closed due to the Coronavirus crisis. If you are already in receipt of free school meals, you do not need to apply again as nothing has changed, and your child will remain eligible until March 2024.

If you are in receipt of Universal Infant Free School Meals only, you will not be entitled to a meal during this crisis. If you believe you are eligible for a free school meal due to low income please apply here.

If your circumstances have recently changed and you have applied for Universal Credits in recent weeks, please understand that we are unable to process your application until the Department for Education confirms that you are eligible, normally this can take up to six weeks and may take longer due to current circumstances. Be assured we check applications waiting to be confirmed daily and will be in touch as soon as you are eligible for free school meals. We will advise your child's school immediately.

### Please see the government guidance here

If you are self-isolating and unable to leave home, you may find the Home But Not Alone volunteer scheme useful to connect you with community volunteers to collect supplies for you. <u>You can find further information here</u>

We are all doing our best in very challenging circumstances - thank you for your patience and understanding.