

# Newsletter

Issue 22

05<sup>th</sup> March 2021

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4EU

<http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com>



## Tweet of the Week

"The centre of confession is Jesus who waits for us, who listens to us and forgives us."

[Pope Francis \(@Pontifex\)](#)



Dear Parent,

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday. It will be truly wonderful to have St Mary's family back together in school. We will be focusing on settling the children back in to life at school. Remembering our school rules and learning behaviours.

See you all on Monday!

Warmest regards,  
Mrs Berry

## **Schools Reopening 8<sup>th</sup> March:**

Here is a link to the updated guidance from the DFE on schools reopening.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Attached to the newsletter is the reopening 8<sup>th</sup> March School Guidance that was sent out via parentmail.

## **Virtual Parent Evening:**

As we navigate our way through the new measures imposed by the Government we will not be running Parents' Evenings in the normal format. This year we have decided to provide teachers' appointments virtually, through a new Parents' Evening booking system (School Cloud).

The Virtual Parents' Evening will be held on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021**, from 3.30pm to 6.30pm and **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021**, from 3.50pm to 7.00pm

Please see your parent mail for booking instructions. Bookings will close on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

### **Extra Layers to keep warm:**

Please remember that due to our Covid19 risk assessment we are keeping the doors and windows open to help with the circulation of air. As the weather is still cool, please could you ensure that your child has extra layers on to help keep them warm, vests, tights and even base layers if needed. As extra help if your child is feeling the cold then we would allow them to wear a plain navy fleece over their school uniform.

Please make sure that all school uniform is named as when children misplace their items it makes it easier for teachers to give back to the correct person if it has the names clearly visible

### **Face Masks:**

Please could we remind all parents to please wear a face mask/covering when dropping off or collecting your child from school.

### **Clothing Bank at School:**

We are pleased to inform you that we now have our own clothing bank in the school car park.

#### **Items you can donate**

- Clothes
- Paired shoes
- Blankets
- Handbags
- Belts
- Towels
- CD's and DVD's
- Video games
- Books
- Bric-a-brac

#### **Items you cannot donate**

- \* Pillows & Duvets
- \* Glass
- \* Metal
- \* Paper
- \* Carpets
- \* Soiled Rugs
- \* Rubbish



### **Turn on subtitles campigan:**

Turning on the subtitles, while young people are watching television, can vastly improve their reading ability. Please follow the link to watch a message about this from Stephen Fry, and do share with your community to spread the word!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-zlSnJ-oao>

### **Parent's Guide to Self-Harm:**

Attached to the newsletter is a parent's guide to self-harm, it is there if you wish to read it.

### **Online Safety Evening:**

Thank you to Mr Cook for hosting our online safety evening on 04<sup>th</sup> March 2021. To all the parents that joined us we hope that you found it useful and informative



## Year 1 Fairtrade:

We did the slideshow for assembly with everyone at home doing well finding examples with the fairtrade logo in the kitchen. Also had some examples here in school to show the at school children.

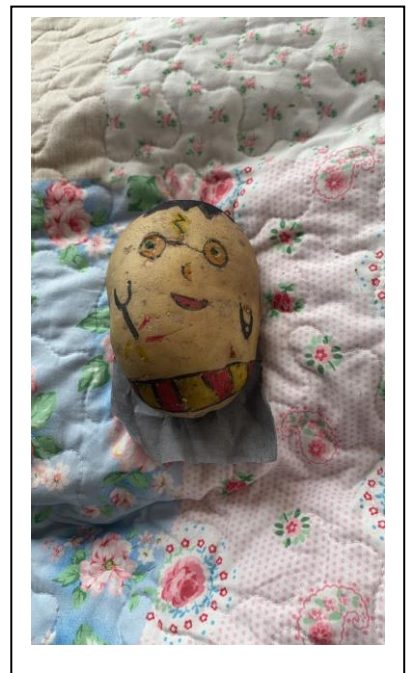
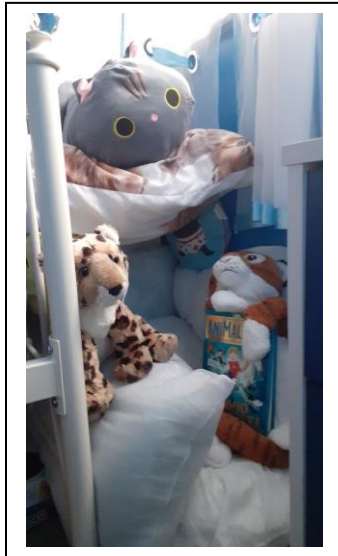
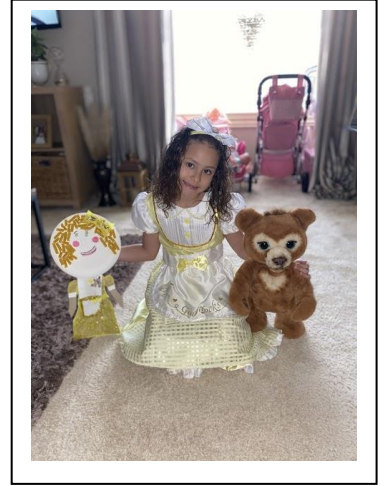
We made a fairtrade table cloth with the children putting their handprints on and decorating them to show how we can link up with others. Some also had a go at doing the symbol and drawing the Earth.



## World Book Day:








## Science:

Mr Cook will be sending 10 'Starters for STEM' science activities weekly for children to try at home. We'd love to see pictures of children completing the activities, for next week's newsletter.

There are some extra, more challenging STEM challenges available here

([https://www.stem.org.uk/system/files/elibrary-resources/2020/04/05\\_Starters%20for%20STEM\\_20%20Apr.pdf](https://www.stem.org.uk/system/files/elibrary-resources/2020/04/05_Starters%20for%20STEM_20%20Apr.pdf)) too! Have fun!

## Starters for STEM



Starters for STEM are 10 activities that parents can use at home to help children develop their science, technology, engineering and maths skills. These activities are easy to resource and provide children with the stimulus to talk about the world around them. If you see a link you can explore how to extend these activities, you will need to sign up, for free, to access these materials. Don't forget to share your work on social media

#ScienceFromHome

### Gestation periods

How long are humans pregnant for? The time an animal is pregnant is a gestation period. Research other animals' gestation periods. Are they the same as humans? Which animal has the longest gestation period? Which has the shortest?

[www.stem.org.uk/rx3d1kx](http://www.stem.org.uk/rx3d1kx)

### What can you smell?

Explore some of the things in your house/ garden with your nose. What can you smell? Do they smell flowery, fruity, spicy or herby?

### Help the Gingerbread Man

The Gingerbread man can't get across the river to escape being eaten, can you help him? What can you build to get him across the water?

[www.stem.org.uk/rx3d33z](http://www.stem.org.uk/rx3d33z)

### Bird detectives

What birds do you get in your garden or in your local area? Sit quietly in your garden, looking out of your window or in a green space on your walk. What birds do you see? Can you identify them from these spotter sheets?

[www.stem.org.uk/rxas74](http://www.stem.org.uk/rxas74)

### Solid, liquid or gas?

Can you find things in your house that are a solid, a liquid or a gas.

List at least 3 things for each. Are there any that you find tricky to say which they are?

[www.stem.org.uk/rx3d1mq](http://www.stem.org.uk/rx3d1mq)

### Painting with water

Get a bowl full of water and a brush. A decorators brush is great for this. Paint the pavement or the walls outside. Can you write your name?

What happened to the water? Did the colour of the wall/ pavement/fence change? Did the pavement stay 'painted'?

### Catch a rainbow

Pour some milk into a bowl and carefully put three drops of red colouring into one side. About a third of the way around put three drops of blue food colouring and another third of the way around put three drops of yellow food colouring. Do this very carefully, without moving the bowl, so that the three colours do not mix. Next squeeze a drop of washing up liquid into the centre of the bowl and record what you see.

[www.stem.org.uk/rx33n2](http://www.stem.org.uk/rx33n2)

### Be a 'dengineer'

Natural disasters can leave people homeless. Your challenge is to creatively engineer a structure that stands and that people could safely use to sleep in. You can use materials sourced from your home and garden. Test it and then think how you could make improvements.

[www.stem.org.uk/rx5fncs](http://www.stem.org.uk/rx5fncs)

### Ice cube conundrum

What material would keep an ice cube frozen for the longest amount of time? Can you come up with a simple investigation to test your ideas at home?

[www.stem.org.uk/rx32h6](http://www.stem.org.uk/rx32h6)

### Changing shadows

Use an old cardboard box to cut out a shape of an animal, (anything you choose). Hold it in front of a light, like your bedside light or a torch. Is the shadow bigger or smaller than the cardboard animal? Try and make the biggest and smallest shadows that you can. How did you do this?

[www.stem.org.uk/rx33xx](http://www.stem.org.uk/rx33xx)

## Tools for Uncertainty: Parent Workshop:

Life is always unpredictable but over this last year we have been living with a much higher degree of uncertainty than is usual. This workshop will introduce strategies that parents/carers can use to support their young people to help them cope better with uncertainty now but also in the years to come. Being able to adapt in situations by learning to tolerate emotions and cope with change reduces stress levels and is a great skill for life.

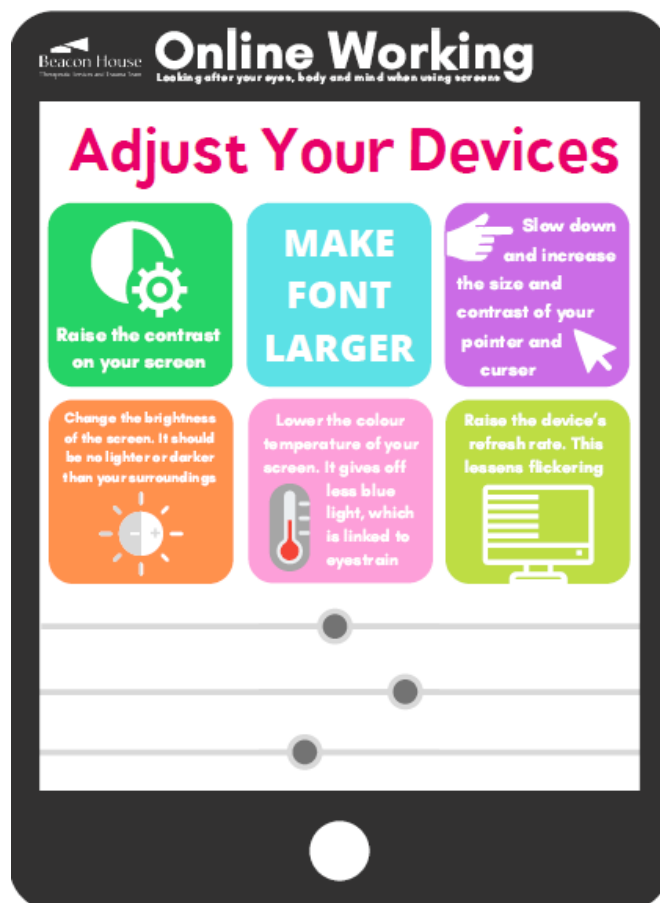
This workshop is suitable for parents/carers of all children who are struggling in the current pandemic who would like to learn strategies they can teach their children for managing difficult thoughts, feelings and situations.

Monday 22 March 1pm or 6pm, Tuesday 23 March 6pm or 7.15pm

Families can book themselves on to this workshop for free through Eventbrite:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tools-to-manage-uncertainty-parent-workshop-tickets-142489504945](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tools-to-manage-uncertainty-parent-workshop-tickets-142489504945)

## Adults and Children working from home tips:



**PTA:**

## **Your School Lottery**

We are delighted to announce the launch of our school lottery!

The first draw is set to take place on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm**, on how to take part and you can join right now!

Tickets are £1 each and you can buy them using either direct debit or by debit card.

**Either:** click this link - [Support St Mary's Catholic Primary School Ipswich when you play Your School Lottery - Your School Lottery](#)

**Or:** Search 'Your School Lottery' on the internet, click 'Buy a Ticket', put in St Mary's Ipswich and it will show our logo and 'St Mary's Catholic Primary School Ipswich', click support us.

Each week all entrants in the 'Your School Lottery' stand to win a £25,000 jackpot, and someone from our school community will win a guaranteed prize every single week – a proportion of our school's ticket takings.

It is open to everyone – parents, teachers, grandparents, work colleagues, parishioners – so please spread the word far and wide. The more people that play, the more funds we raise for the school.

Funds raised will go towards St Mary's school as per the Friends of St Mary's constitution.

Best of luck! From Marge Jessop and the FOSM PTA



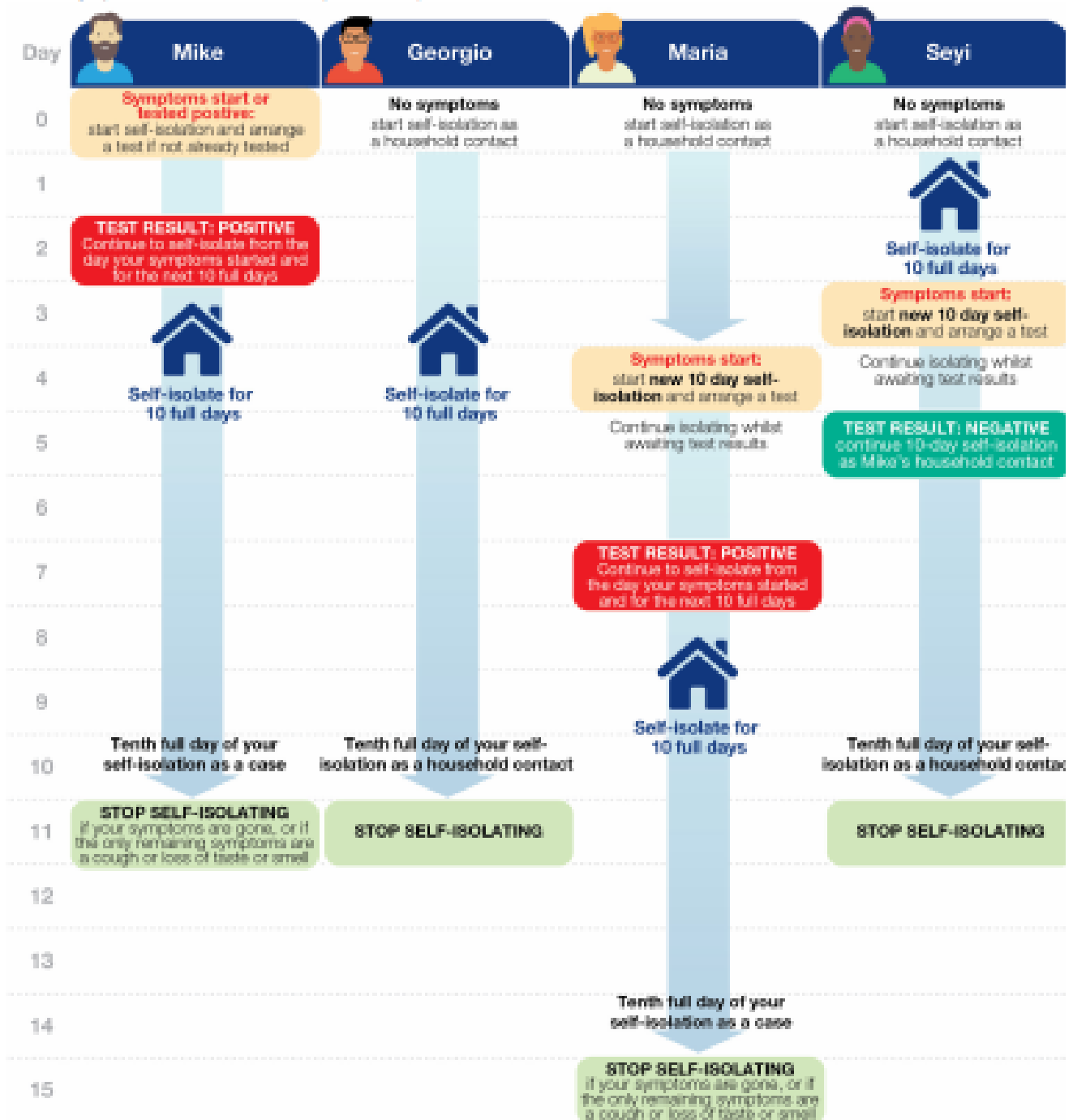


Public Health  
England

# Stay at home and self-isolate.

Please see [detailed guidance online](#).

**Mike's household:** In this example, Mike lives with Georgio, Maria and Seyi. Mike is the first case of COVID-19 in this household. He and everyone in the household begin self-isolating from the day Mike's symptoms start (or if he had no symptoms, from the date of his positive test).



## Self-isolate for 10 full days.

You need to self-isolate from the day the first person in your household started symptoms and for the next 10 full days. If they did not have symptoms, self-isolate from the day of their test and for the next 10 full days.

## To self-isolate means:

Do not go to work, school, or public areas and do not use public transport or taxis. Only leave your home to get to your test if you need to, observe strict social distancing advice and return immediately afterwards.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE



## Date for your Diary:

### Term dates for 2021

#### Spring Term 2021

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

**Half term:** 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February

**Staff Training day:** 4<sup>th</sup> January

#### Summer Term 2021

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July

**Bank holiday:** 3<sup>rd</sup> May

**Half term:** 31<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June

**Staff Training days:** 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> July (disaggregated)

### Term dates for 2021 - 2022

#### Autumn Term 2021

Wednesday 01<sup>st</sup> September – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

**Half term:** 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October

**Staff Training day:** 01<sup>st</sup> September

#### Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 08<sup>th</sup> April

**Half term:** 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February

**Staff Training day:** 4<sup>th</sup> January

#### Summer Term 2022

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July

**Bank holiday:** 02<sup>nd</sup> May

**Half term:** 30<sup>th</sup> May – 03<sup>rd</sup> June

**Staff Training days:** 25<sup>th</sup> April, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> July

