

# Newsletter

30<sup>th</sup> April 2020

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

<http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com>

Welcome to this week's newsletter.



## School Closed Bank Holiday Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May

### 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 <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCJ4RA2ocNUgNNombaKiy5A>

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



Let us #PrayTogether today for those who have died because of the pandemic, and in a special way for the "anonymous" dead.

### 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 [admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk) and Mrs Berry will contact you directly.

Dear Parents/Carers

We are living through some strange and unprecedented times at the moment and I hope you are all keeping safe and staying well. School feels very quiet without you all and is unusually tidy! We are all looking forward to your return to school when once again the school will be full of life.

I would like to thank the whole school community for pulling together in such an amazing way. As a staff, we have felt so very well supported by you and we have all appreciated the messages of gratitude that have come our way. We have always been a wonderful school family and I hope these difficult times bring us even closer together.

Stay safe and God bless you all,

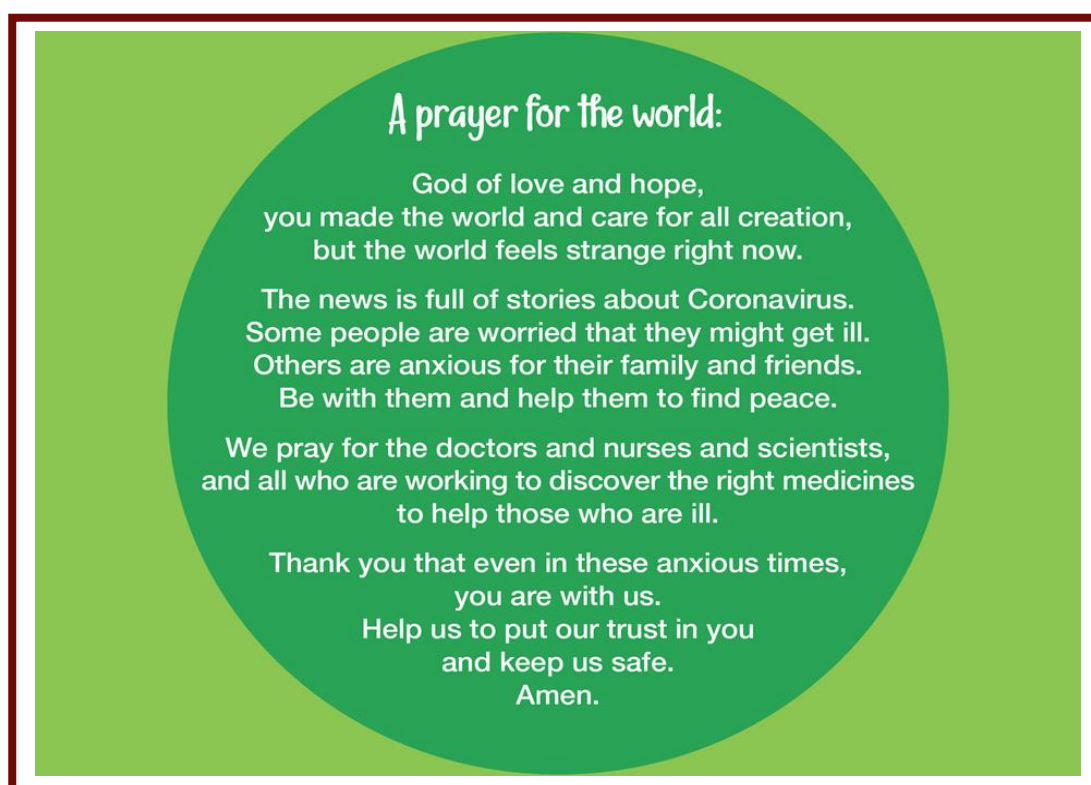
Mrs Berry

Katherine Rundell, a famous children's author, has pieced together lots of short stories to do with hope and put them in this free ebook for children/families!

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/>

If you click on the link below it will take you to an information book for primary school aged children to help explain the coronavirus and the measures taken to control it. It answers lots of questions in a child-friendly way, and aims to both inform and reassure.

<https://nosycrow.com/blog/released-today-free-information-book-explaining-coronavirus-children-illustrated-gruffalo-illustrator-axel-scheffler>



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. [You can find further information here](#)

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