

Newsletter

Issue 06

9th October 2020

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

<http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com>



Tweet of the Week

'The effort to build a more just society implies the capacity of fraternity, a spirit of human communion.'

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



New School Rules:

We have new school rules that the children have been learning.

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe

Parking

A huge thank you to all those who continue to park responsibly around the school.

Please be mindful of our neighbours when parking. Parking across driveways so that people cannot access their house is causing issues.

School Open Evening for Reception Class 2021/2022:

We are hoping to hold two open Evening sessions on the following dates:

The first will be on 9th November and there will be two slots, one at 3.30pm and the second at 4pm. There will be a short tour around the school and a 15-minute meeting with the Jo Berry (head of school) to answer any questions you may have.

The second will be on 11th November and again there will be two slots as above.

You will need to choose a session, to book simply email the school admin email address with your name and telephone number. Unfortunately, due to the current restrictions, only one parent will be allocated a space.

Should the guidelines change we will contact you to rearrange.

Reception 2021/2022:

The application portal is now open with Suffolk County Council for parents to apply for their child's Reception class for children starting school in September 2021/2022.

We require a Supplementary Information Form that will need to be completed and returned to the office at school before the deadline 15th January 2021. Any SIF's received after this date will be dealt with as a late application.

Year 6 High School Transfer – Admissions 2021/2022:

The application portal is now open with Suffolk County Council for parents to apply for current year 6 High School Place for September 2021/2022, the deadline for applications is 31st October 2020. Please check the High School you wish to apply to, to see if they require you to complete a Supplementary Information Form. Completed SIF's will need to be returned to your chosen school by the closing date 31st October 2020.

Parents Evening

Due to the current situation with Covid19 and our risk assessment we are unable to hold a face to face parents evening this November.

This year, the class teachers will write a short report designed to give you a snapshot view of how your child has settled back into school and a current picture of how they are learning and what progress they are making.

After reading the report, if there is something further you wish to discuss with the class teacher then please email the school to make a telephone appointment.

Reports will be sent to you as an attachment via parentmail on 19th November.

NHS COVID-19 - NHS

Below are the details of the NHS App. We are encouraging all staff and parents to download it. Thank you.



The NHS COVID-19 app has been built in collaboration with some of the most innovative organisations in the world. We've worked with medical experts, privacy groups and at-risk communities.

www.nhs.uk

<https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/nhs-covid-19/>

Online Safety:

Mr Cook has asked that you read the information from the link about keeping your child safe online.

<https://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com/site/data/files/school%20curriculum/computing/3DC18605709EDEA458CA02B880564C7A.pdf>

We understand there are pupils using Discord, a chat app. There are risks associated with this app that parents should be aware of. Please read the information supplied and please get in touch if you have any Online Safety concerns - Mr Cook

Music Tuition

County Music Service are contracted to supply a minimum of 33 lessons per academic year. During this current academic year there are approximately 37 lessons included. Therefore, if a tutor is absent due to illness, a refund will not apply unless the lessons fall below the contracted number.

If you have any queries concerning this please contact County Music Services direct. Thank you.

FIND

At this time of year, as you probably know, we would normally have a collection for the foodbank (FIND).

This is a cause which has long been central to our Harvest celebrations.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic and the need to quarantine items coming into school, it will not be possible to have a collection this year. This was a particularly difficult decision for us to take as we know that there will be so many more families in need during these challenging times.

Therefore, could I ask you, if you are able, to donate one or two items to the food banks in your local supermarket. It won't be the same but the St. Mary's community can still make a difference in the lives of others.

Thank you.

School Uniform and extra layers:

Due to a change in weather please could all children ensure that they bring a waterproof named coat to school with them every day.

Due to our Covid19 risk assessment we are keeping the doors and windows open slightly to help with the circulation of air. As the weather begins to 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.

Appointments:

We understand how difficult it is for parents not to be able to talk face to face with the class teacher. If you have an issue that needs discussing please do not hesitate to email or call the school office and they will arrange a telephone appointment with your child's teacher.

Also, please communicate with your teacher by writing in your child's school diary.

Cambodia Book:

Marie-Madeleine has written and published a book on the visits to Cambodia which have informed the presentations that have been given to pupil's at St. Mary's over the years. There is actually a reference to the great support given by St Mary's School to the twinning towards the end of the book.

Copies, which cost £14.99, can be obtained by sending Marie-Madeleine an email at mariemadeleinekenning@gmail.com

All profits will go to supporting those in need in Cambodia. As you can imagine, general fundraising has come to a standstill and any help that parents wish to give would be greatly appreciated.

Sports Clubs:

YEAR 5 - Wednesday 8am

YEAR 3 - Wednesday 3.15pm

YEAR 4 - Thursday 8am

YEAR 6 - Friday 3.15pm

Payment is due by 09th October 2020 please.

Netball:

Cancelled: 7th & 14th October

Wednesday 3.15pm - **Year 5 next session is on 21st October**

Wednesday 3.15pm - **Year 6 next session is on 4th November**

Year 5's last session will be on Wednesday 25th November

Year 6's last session will be on Wednesday 2nd December



School Meals:

Just to let you know that you do not have to commit to school dinners for the whole term. You can make your choices on a day to day basis.

Reception, Years 1 & 2 do not pay for school meals.

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 are charged £2.35 per meal.

Your child will be asked each morning in registration if they are a school meal or packed lunch so please make sure that your child is aware of what they need to order.

FOSM Update:

Non-Uniform Day

Friday 23rd October will be a non-uniform day at school. We are asking for £1.00 for your child to come to school wearing their own clothes. The money will be collected by class teachers in school.

School Lottery

The FOSM PTA would like to gauge interest in setting up a school lottery. Please may you take 30 seconds to click here <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ZQ7D7MH> and let us know what you think. Thanks very much in advance, Marge Jessop

Amazon Smile fundraising

It's Amazon Prime day on October 14th so we're taking the opportunity to remind you to sign up to Amazon Smile.

It's free! And raises lots of lovely funds for the school. It's a cash back scheme specifically for Amazon accounts and raises money for the school while you shop.

Here's how to set it up (you only have to do it once and it's done):

1. Go to [Smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk)
2. Log in as normal to your Amazon.
3. Search for St Mary's Parent and Teachers Association. Once selected this will stay as your nominated charity.
4. Shop as normal through the link [Smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk).

That's it!

iPhone users, the Smile donations don't work on the Amazon app. The good news is you can set Amazon Smile up as a shortcut on your screen.

You only need to do it once and it stays there as an icon. I use it this way and it gives a near identical experience to the app.

It's very quick and easy to do.

1. If you have the Amazon App installed you should remove it. To do this, tap and hold the app icon until it starts to jiggle.

Tap the cross at the top left of the icon and confirm that you want to delete it.

Don't worry, this will not delete your Amazon account or any of your settings.

2. Open Amazon smile on Safari.

3. Tap the 'share' button at the bottom of the screen (looks like a box with an arrow pointing out the top).

4. Tap the 'Add to Home Screen' icon. You may need to swipe to the left to see this.

5. You will now have an Amazon Smile icon on your home screen which you can use in exactly the same way you used the Amazon App.

It costs you nothing, and if you use Amazon please do set this up. There are a couple of initial steps and then it's literally zero effort after that. Every purchase you make will raise money for the school. Your help is vital at the moment as we are unlikely to be able to run fundraising events for some time.

Thanks very much from the FOSM PTA team

Dates for your Diary:

Term dates for 2020/21

Autumn Term 2020

Thursday 3rd September – Friday 18th December

Half term: 26th – 30th October

Staff Training Days: 1st & 2nd September

Spring Term 2021

Tuesday 5th January – Friday 26th March

Half term: 15th – 19th February

Staff Training day: 4th January

Summer Term 2021

Monday 12th April – Friday 16th July

Bank holiday: 3rd May

Half term: 31st May – 4th June

Staff Training days: 19th & 20th July (disaggregated)