

Newsletter

23rd April 2020

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

<http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com>



Welcome to this week's newsletter.

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 and Mrs Berry will contact you directly.

Tweet of the Week



The pandemic reminds us there are no differences or borders between those who suffer. We are all frail, all equal, all precious. May we be profoundly shaken: Now is the time to eliminate inequalities and heal the injustice undermining the health of the entire human family!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you safe and well and managing to enjoy some of this beautiful weather we have been experiencing.

All of us have so missed seeing you and your children and we can't wait until we are through this difficult situation and able to all be together again. This is certainly a very different summer term than the one we had planned.

We are very aware that alongside the blessing of additional family time, the current situation brings challenges with regard to juggling home-life alongside your own personal and work commitments. Please do not feel any additional burden from us. We appreciate any work that you are doing with your child. Remember that the work we are providing for your child is optional and our primary concern is the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

Rest assured that your child will be in exactly the right place when they return to school and regardless of what learning they may or may not have covered during the period the school is closed, we will take them from where they are.

Please look after yourselves and do feel free to contact us if you need any help at all.

Very best wishes,

Mrs Berry and Team.

Below is a message from Teresa Selvey our Trust CEO

As a Trust group of schools, we really appreciate all that you are doing to keep your children learning at home at this difficult time. We are also conscious that there is an abundance of online learning materials available and it can be difficult for you to know which are best to support your child. You have probably seen recent publicity about the online Oak Academy and BBC daily online learning.

Whilst we will continue to signpost you to a range of resources that you might find useful, please bear in mind that your child's teacher is best placed to understand their learning needs even if they aren't coming into school. Work will be coming home at least once a week to direct your child's learning and this should take priority over use of any additional resources which you may wish to use as an optional extra. Links to free to use online resources can also be accessed via school websites.

This link provides some useful information from the DfE on how to support your children at home.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Please also bear in mind that the most important thing you can do for your children at the moment is to ensure that they have some element of structure to their day wherever possible so that they can return to learning in a more formal setting when they eventually return to school. Thank you for all that you are doing to support our school in these unprecedented times."

With very best wishes,

God bless you all,

Teresa Selvey

[Apply for free school meals | Suffolk County Council](https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals/)

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In exceptional circumstances, we will accept a paper application. For example, if you do not have access to the internet, have no email address or have language difficulties. Please ring the **Free School Meals** team for an application **form** on 01473 260989 or email freeschoolmeals@suffolk.gov.uk.