

# Dover St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Learning for life with God as our guide



Starfish Class Weekly Newsletter

Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## A Message from Ms Comfort

Home Learning,

It has been good to hear about the home learning work which the teachers have been sent this week; I thank the children and parent/carers for their efforts with this. We have worked to make contact with all families over the last two weeks to check who has internet connection at home and what devices the children have to work on. We have been able to apply for 4G routers for some families with children in Key Stage 2 who have no internet connection; I will let you know if we are successful with this. We have also received a small number of laptops from the Department for Education which we are able to loan to families – most of these have now been allocated. Do please let us know if there is anything we can do to help you with enabling your child to complete the home learning set by the teachers.

Our current approach to remote education is to keep the format we are using as straightforward and easy to use as possible for parent/carers and the children, to focus on the basics, to use recorded lessons produced externally which cover the content we want and to give feedback to the children. As with all aspects of our work this approach will be kept under review and is likely to be subject to development.

Teachers have been telephoning families this week to check that all is well and will continue to make contact in this way over the coming weeks.

Ms Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher

## A Message from Ms Craig & Mrs Fagg

Hello Starfish,

We hope that you are well and have had a great week! Mrs Fagg attempted to make millionaire shortbread with her daughter – luckily it tasted nicer than it looked. 😊

Did you enjoy the home learning? Mrs Fagg's favourite lesson was Topic; she really enjoyed remembering the toys she used to play with as a child. They are very different to what you have today, although some are similar. What differences did you notice? She also liked creating the penny spinners; the ones we saw were very colourful and impressive. 😊

Ms Craig's favourite lesson was science – looking at all of the different materials that things are made from. She also liked the mindfulness activities, she enjoyed sitting and watching the bubbles, feeling calm and content.

It has been a very wet and rainy week but a great opportunity to put your wellies on and jump in puddles.

We miss you all and we hope to see you soon, but we just need to wait until it is safe enough to do so.

Lots more exciting learning planned for you for next week. Please do what you can and do not worry about anything. We look forward to hearing about your learning. Stay safe and take care. Enjoy your family time! 😊

## Useful Weblinks

Some rainy day activities

<https://www.personalcreations.com/blog/20-fun-games-play-rainy-day>

Indoor scavenger hunt

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/105342078774269755/>

## Thought for the Week

Give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is the will of God in  
Christ Jesus for you.  
-1 Thessalonians 5:18



## Coronavirus - Keeping School Informed

Thank you to those parents who have continued to contact us to let us know if their child has symptoms of Covid and are awaiting a test and then advising the result of the test, either negative or positive.

Please could all parents and carers continue to do so, even if the child is not attending school, as we are required to report information daily to the DfE on the number of suspected and confirmed cases (just the number, no names).

Also could parents let us know each day, using the usual [office@stmarysprimary.net](mailto:office@stmarysprimary.net) email, if a pupil is ill and unable to do the set work just as you would if we were open as normal so we can make the teachers aware they will not receive any completed work that day from your child/ren. Thank you for your help with these important matters.

## Collective Worship

This week we are exploring the four Gospels in the New Testament.

We heard a story from each one about Jesus and the stories he told.

The Story of Philip and Nathanael from the Gospel of John speaks of the qualities of friendship, and why we chose the friends we chose.

TODAY  
is the day to  
learn something  
NEW

## The Week Ahead Week Commencing 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Next week, you will be exploring some different stories in Literacy and will continue to explore numbers, including double and halving, and odd and even numbers.

You will be exploring 'Toys' from the Victorian times and comparing the toys we have now to the toys they played with over 100 years ago. There will be some more great art ideas, including creating a paper helicopter.

Enjoy the home learning! If you have any queries or would like ideas for additional tasks to extend learning even further please do not hesitate to contact. Have a lovely week! ☺

Monday & Tuesday: [daisy.craig@stmarysprimary.net](mailto:daisy.craig@stmarysprimary.net) Wednesday to Friday: [emma.fagg@stmarysprimary.net](mailto:emma.fagg@stmarysprimary.net)

### Coronavirus Symptoms

Children or staff with any of the three symptoms of Covid:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss or change to your sense of taste or smell

are to **stay at home** and isolate, as must the rest of their household. They should get a Covid test.

Children and staff must also stay at home and isolate if a member of their household has any of these symptoms until the outcome of a Covid test is known, and follow advice accordingly.

If your child has attended school for childcare and tests positive for Covid you must immediately inform the school – by telephone on 01304 206887 during the school day. If you get a positive result at the weekend, during the evening or in a school holiday please email [office@stmarysprimary.net](mailto:office@stmarysprimary.net)

To get a test go online to:  
[nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus)

OR

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

OR

Telephone 111

### Is your child born between 1st September 2016 & 31st August 2017?

Applications for Year R September 2021 primary school places close on

**Friday 15th January 2021**

To apply, please go to:

[kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](https://kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

**Application forms are also available from local schools, by contacting KCC on 03000 412121 or by emailing**

If you would like any further information about St Mary's, please contact us - 01304 206887

Please spread the word to anyone you know.

As always, please don't hesitate to make contact via email or telephone with any queries, comments or concerns you may have.

**Helen Comfort - Executive Headteacher**  
[office@stmarysprimary.net](mailto:office@stmarysprimary.net) - 01304 206887

Follow this link to our website

<https://www.st-marys-dover.kent.sch.uk/>