

# Dover St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Learning for life with God as our guide



## Orca Class Weekly Newsletter

Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### A Message from Ms Comfort

I'm sure that many of you will have been following the news this week and have picked up on the statement regarding school closures, but for those of you who may not know, I wanted to make sure everyone was as up to date as possible.

The key announcements from this week in parliament are as follows:

- The **earliest** schools might 'begin to re-open' will be Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, which is the start of the third school week after the half-term holiday;
- There will be a plan/review from the government set out for schools and parents on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February (the first day after the half-term holiday), with further updates;
- When the decision to return has been made, schools will get two weeks' notice of this.

This means that we have at least four more school weeks of home-learning under the current arrangements.

Moving forwards, we will continue with everything that we have in place and keep seeking ways to keep everyone supported and motivated. Look out for information regarding 'Wonderful Wednesday' elsewhere in the newsletter as well as Children's Mental Health Week.

Ms Helen Comfort

### A Message from Mrs Muller

Thank you for all the wonderful work that has been coming in, I really enjoy seeing it. This week sees the introduction of Wonderful Wednesdays and I hope you enjoy having a go at some of the activities. Once again, I would love to see the finished products if you do a creative task. I hope that you are enjoying the reading of Ice Monster by David Walliams - I really enjoy doing it (even though my dog made a cameo appearance) and I will continue to send the chapters as I do them. Have a wonderful week and keep the marvellous work coming in.

Regards

Mrs Muller

### Useful Weblinks

The science of having fun

<https://www.funology.com/>

Find out how Japanese children have fun

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/>



### Thought for the Week

*Jesus said, "whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."*

JOHN 4:14

### Collective Worship

This week in Collective Worship we have looked at unconditional love. Jesus showed this to the Samaritan woman at the well. The story can be found in John Chapter 4 v4-9. This led us to explore all about the Water of Life. Jesus will always acknowledge us, welcome us and accept us.

## WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

We are conscious of the demands on all families regarding home learning and the fact that many children are now spending much time during the day looking at screens. Teachers have worked to produce some different activities for your child to complete on a Wednesday – we hope that these enable your child to be up and active rather than sitting looking at a screen. Have a look out for the suggestions for the next two weeks and choose those which suit your family – you do not need to do them all! Do please send in photographs of your child completing the activity.



### 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**

## Other News

This week is Children's Mental Health week. In school we will be exploring ideas and thoughts with the children using materials from

<https://nowandbeyond.org.uk/>

We recommend those of you at home to have a look also.

On Wednesday, children and staff will be encouraged to wear their clothes inside out.

## The Week Ahead

### Week Commencing Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021

1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February is Children's Mental Health Week  
Watch this link that tells us what is mental health:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxIDKZHW3-E>

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February: World Read Aloud Day

<https://nationaldaycalendar.com/world-read-aloud-day-beginning-of-february/>

### 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.

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**

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