

Dover St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Learning for life with God as our guide



Dolphins Class Weekly Newsletter

Friday, 15th 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 Mr Venning

Hello Dolphins Class,

First of all I want to say a massive well done to everyone for all your hard work so far. I have seen some excellent work through photos sent to me by email and it looks like many of you are enjoying the work as well which is great. I was very happy to be able to speak to some of you on the phone Thursday and hear how you are getting on, I look forward to the opportunity of doing this every Thursday and getting regular updates on what you have been up to.

I know the days are short at the moment and the weather is not great but it is important to still take some time to have a break, get outside and enjoy the fresh air. During one of my breaks this week I took Oscar out for a walk, he really enjoyed yanking on his wellies and finding lots of muddy puddles to splash in, proving that there is lots of fun to be had outside.

Keep up the good work and keep sending me those photos, have a great weekend.

Warm regards, Mr Venning.

Useful Weblinks

This week I will focus on the BBC. They already have so many home learning resources to offer and several parents and children have told me how useful and enjoyable these are.

Follow this link to find out about all their home learning resources -

<https://bam.files.bbci.co.uk/bam/live/content/z4p8wtv/pdf>

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 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 18th January 2021

For the coming week we will be finishing off our work linked to the book 'Toby and The Great Fire of London', and we will begin looking at some poetry at the end of the week. I know lots of you have really enjoyed learning about The Great Fire of London and we will still have some focus on this through the poetry we look at, and of course the history work.

In Maths we're continuing to learn more about grouping and sharing but this time it will link to division, which is a really useful skill to learn. I hope you enjoy the work I've set and get as much as you can out of the home learning.

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

To get a test go online to:

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

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 - 01304 206887

Follow this link to our website

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