

# Dover St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Learning for life with God as our guide

Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021



## A Message from Ms Comfort

As the Spring term draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the staff and to thank them all for their tireless efforts over the last 12 months. Doing all that we can to support the children and families has remained our key focus and I hope that you will agree with me that the staff have been brilliant.

As you know we say farewell to Mrs Amanda Punton this week as she leaves St Mary's; we all thank her and wish her every continued success. Miss Claire Yarnley will be taking over the role of Family Liaison Officer after the Easter break; some of you may know of her through her recent work as Teaching Assistant in Class 5. She can be contacted via email on [flo@stmarysprimary.net](mailto:flo@stmarysprimary.net) More information will be shared next term regarding her new role at school.

I thank all families for their continued support and wish you all an enjoyable Easter holiday.

## Contact Tracing Over the Easter Holidays

The DfE has asked schools to continue with contact tracing over Easter, similar to the arrangements over Christmas. School leaders are required to assist with NHS tracking and tracing for 6 days after the end of term – until and including Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April. Please note the following:

1. Staff and parents/carers of pupils need to inform the school of a positive case where they developed symptoms within 48 hours of being at school.
2. Staff and parents/carers of pupils who were asymptomatic, but tested positive within 48 hours of last being in school, also need to let the school know.
3. The school should assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in their education setting.
4. Where pupils or staff test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) during the holidays, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being at school, schools are not required to take any action. Staff and parents/carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

To notify me during the holiday please email [office@stmarysprimary.net](mailto:office@stmarysprimary.net). This is the only account which is guaranteed to be monitored during the relevant time. If I am notified of a positive result, as per the above criteria, the relevant school children and staff member contacts will be informed by email and text sent from the parentmail system. Do please, of course, keep us updated in the new term with any covid-related information which you are not required to advise us of during the holiday. Thank you.

**Ms Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher**

## News from the Classes

Last week saw a frenzy of activity in every class as they prepared some amazing art work, poems and prayers to be taken to the Parish Centre to be displayed for the Easter period.



Much emphasis this week has been on Holy week. Today the classes met Bishop Rose for the first time -on zoom and heard her Easter message to us all. If you want to have a look please visit it here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmthROEKpH8>

## Class 3

You may have heard that we had to close our Year 3 bubble today due to a positive Lateral Flow Covid Test result. We await the outcome of a PCR test, in the meantime all identified contacts within the Bubble must isolate. We have notified all relevant parent/carers and no further action is required by any other members of our school community.

### Collective Worship at St Mary's

We have continued to celebrate Holy Week. This is a very important time on the Christian Calendar.

Worship was led by Class 6, Mrs Trelfer and Reverend Melissa Carter. This culminated in our Easter Celebration on Tuesday, which can be viewed on our website and Facebook Page.

We would like to take this time to wish you all a happy and peaceful Easter.



### Easter Prayer

Lord Jesus, we celebrate that you rose again on Easter Day!  
Let your light shine into every corner of our world and may your love live in our hearts now and forever

**Amen**

### Thought for the Week



### Free School Meals – Did you know...?

Your child might be able to have free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

**For more information, go to:**  
**[kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](https://kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)**

**or telephone our**

**Family Liaison Officer on**  
**01304 206887**



### Rapid Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing

Household members of primary age children are eligible to access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. Tests are fast, easy and free. You can order home test kits online. [Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#) or you can collect from a home test kit collection point. [Find your nearest home test kit collection point](#). Please note that these tests are for **adults within the family, not the children**.

### 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 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**

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**

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