

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families are keeping safe and well. We are now entering week 5 of the Spring Term; the end of half term is in sight!

Last week Boris Johnson announced that the Government hopes it will be safe to reopen schools if the vaccination process continues to operate at the current pace from Monday 8th March. It was good to hear of the Government's plans; unfortunately, I do not have any further information to share with you regarding this reopening.

Mrs Schofield, our Mental Health Wellbeing lead, has created a Mental Health and Well-being Google Classroom page to support parents and children during lockdown. It includes some courses and videos on Mental Health and Well-being, some activities around journaling and self-regulation and some links to mental health support. If you think of anything else that Mrs Schofield can add to her classroom page, do please get in touch. To access the classroom, click on the + symbol at the top right-hand corner of your child's Google Classroom page and write the code b47x7kd. I would really encourage you to access this classroom as there are many useful links and activities available. You will have access to your child's usual classroom as well as this one.



Can I please remind our critical worker families that if you are at home due to a scheduled day off, you MUST keep your child/children at home with you. Also, even if you are a critical worker, your child/children should be kept at home if there is another adult at home to care for them. You should only bring your child into school when there is no other possible alternative. We need to work together to reduce the number of children that we have in school each day. Please continue to notify the school if your critical worker child will not be in school.

You should have received my parentmail last week about the use of weekly Zoom class 'catch up' sessions. It has been lovely to see many children today taking part in these sessions. Thank you to the teachers for adapting and setting up another new way of connecting with their children.
#strongertogether!

Please be reminded that school has access to laptops and iPads that we can lend to families if necessary. If your home situation has changed and you need financial support, please contact the school as we may be able to help you. We can also apply for internet access support for families via Government schemes or through support from companies such as Tesco Mobile



Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him
At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children

and other broadband suppliers. We can also apply for an increase in data allowances if you do not have a fixed broadband connection.

We sent a parentmail yesterday about *The Great Big Art Exhibition* encouraging us to turn our front windows into a gallery as part of a nationwide initiative to create a “magical patchwork of creativity”. People are encouraged to make their artworks out of what they have at hand. The results – be they paintings, sculptures or something less traditional – are to be placed on a front porch, balcony or in the window. This follows on from the ‘NHS Rainbows’ project from the last lockdown. This will be a fantastic way to bring the community of Stevenage together to support good mental health and showcase creativity.

Last week our PSFA donated a sum of money to the school to pay for some new teacher laptops. The timing of this donation was perfect as teachers are relying on their laptops more than ever to deliver their remote learning. Thank you for supporting our school community.

Do not forget to keep in contact with the school and email in photos of the children doing their activities or photos of your ‘magical patchwork of creativity’ so we can tweet and share them with the rest of the school community.

Please remember that we may be ‘closed’ to many of our children, but we are still here for all our families. If you need support or someone to talk to, we are here! Just pick up the phone!

Please stay safe and continue to keep the school community in your prayers.

Yours sincerely



Miss Puccio
Headteacher

