

Here are a few gentle reminders:-

16/10/2020

ST MARK'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Harvest Festival

We are now accepting donations for the West End Food Bank as part of our Harvest Collection. A box will be placed at the front gate and the church gate every morning. Parents are welcome to leave any donations of food.

Hot School Meals

As the cold weather is starting to set in, thank you to those parents in KS2 who have signed up for their child to receive a 'Hot Meal in a Box' for lunch. This will start after the half term. Reception, year 1 & 2 will continue to be offered a hot meal.

Dinner Money

Can I please remind parents that if your child has a paid school meal (starting after half term) dinner money **must** come into school on a Monday morning. The cost of a paid school meal is now £11. Please try to put dinner money in a money bag, if not, please do not seal the dinner money envelopes.

Absence

If your child is poorly, please contact school as soon as possible on the morning of the first day of absence. Please leave a message stating the reason and any symptoms. If we do not know why your child is absent this will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

Year 6 High School Applications 2021

You can now apply for high school at : www.newcastle.gov.uk/admissions. Closing date is noon 31st October 2020. Please note that any late applications may affect your first choice of school

Half Term

School will break up for half term on Thursday 22nd October and will reopen on Monday 2nd November.

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to thank all parents who have shown patience and understanding during these unprecedented and difficult times in school. The staff at St Mark's are going above and beyond in their duty of care in ensuring all children are safe, secure, happy and learning. Unfortunately, one or two parents insist on speaking to staff in the middle of the school day.

Please do not be offended if these requests are refused. Staff are teaching, covering break duties and lunch duties during the pandemic and will continue to do so until restrictions are relaxed. If any parent has a complaint can it be directed to a member of the Senior Management Team and this will be dealt with in due course.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Alison Miller

Collect/Drop off Guidelines

With effect from 2nd November 2020 Parents/Carers will be unable to use the main Church Car Park to stand and wait for children during drop off or collect times. Services and activities will be resuming for the Church and cars will be entering and leaving through the car park gates. We want to thank Fr O'Kane who has been so supportive during this difficult time in re-arranging Mass times etc to accommodate our staggered starts and finish times.

New arrangements will be as follows:

Year 5 & 6 children: Please leave older children (Y5 & 6) if possible, at the entrance to the small pathway next to the main Church car park and staff will direct children into school. At the end of the school day Year 5 & 6 parents to wait in the side entrance which borders the Church car park and staff will bring children out.

Year 3 & 4 children: Parents to bring and collect children at their specified time onto the designated area of the school yard. This will be cordoned off and we ask all parents to follow the signs. It is extremely important that face coverings are worn when bringing children and collecting them. No parents will be allowed onto school premises without a face covering in line with recommendations.

Sibling arrangements will remain the same.

Mrs Smith & Mrs Glaister will be leaving us next week. Mrs Smith on Thursday and Mrs Glaister on Wednesday. We would like to thank them for their continued and committed work within our St Marks Family. We wish them well all the best in their retirement.

Should anyone be affected and need to have a COVID-19 test during the school holidays – school MUST be informed via email (office@stmarksrcprimary.co.uk) whether this is a positive or negative result