



# St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Bulletin No 39: Friday 24 July 2020

<http://www.st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk/>

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

We pray for our whole school community – that God will keep our families and their loved ones safe over the summer break and that all will return, refreshed and renewed, in September. We also send off our Y6 cohort with this prayer of hope for them:

**As you go, our Y6 friends, you walk upon a path of love  
On which our prayers are softly falling every day.  
As you go, remember that our hearts will hold you close.  
You are treasured and we will cheer you on your way.  
As you go, you travel with Christ at your side.  
His light will show a path and be your guide.  
As you go, be hopeful that you are following your dreams.  
We celebrate for and with you this new season of your life.  
May God bless you and keep you for ever and ever. Amen.**



We are thankful for our school community and each other: pupils, parents, staff, governors and friends. Let us not forget those who have accompanied us through the school year, giving and receiving support, being there for us at different times in different ways.

## OUR WEEK IN BUBBLES – and beyond

- Our Y6 and Y5 cohorts each had a couple of exclusive days to round off their academic year and carry out a variety of suitable activities alongside their friends and staff. We were delighted with so many positive opportunities taken by our children!
- All our regular bubbles are now completed: thank you to all the children, and families, for embracing the time we have been able to share together in this unusual time!
- Please refer to the FAB Notes Issue 8, circulated earlier in the week, which sets out more detail about how our bubbling, and other systems, will work in the new school year.

## ANNUAL REPORTS

Thank you for your feedback sheets, which Mrs Biggs is collating for us.

There have been some enquiries about the attendance data and RAG rating. Note that we are not placing judgement upon your child's attendance in the red/amber/green coding: this colour is reflective of your child's actual attendance level in comparison to expectations. The % attendance figure takes into account the time your child has been on site using the portion of the year we can calculate (September – 20 March): even if you had permission to take your child out, your child has had appointment/s, your child has been ill, or your child had any other legitimate reason for being absent (or none at all), the % figure remains the same – because it is a record of attendance: it is part of a legal document, the final figure of which we are obliged to report to you. I hope this makes it clear. It would be terrible to think anyone was offended by the attendance



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colour or the number, when it is a factual representation of a child's time with us this academic year. It is also worth remembering that because the year was cut short, any winter absences may ordinarily have been diluted by continued attendance between March and July.

## **CROSS COUNTRY**

Congratulations to the following children for attending 5 or more X-country runs representing the school! Elisha, Abigail, Poppy (overall 4<sup>th</sup> in her event) Joshua (overall 10<sup>th</sup> in his event), Charlie (overall 9<sup>th</sup> in his event), Cohen and Finn. There's a special mention for Ellie, who has attended 5 or more runs every year for the last 4 years! The Year 3-4 boys won the silver medal overall. Many congratulations to everyone!

## **ATTACHMENTS**

For your information and interest, please find attached our revised Mission and Vision overview alongside an updated document to show our Principles of Curriculum Design. Well before lockdown, we were reviewing all subjects within the curriculum and rewriting our progression documents as well as planning out how our subjects will fit snugly together, across the school. We have continued with this work throughout the last few months. In the new school year, I look forward to working further with parents to share more information about your children's learning: having delivered so much yourselves in recent weeks, I know that you will welcome the chance to learn more about this! Would anyone like to be involved in a working party/ discussion group on this matter? Let me know if this would be something you would like to do.

## **SURVEY FROM OUR BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT TEAM**

Our friends at Stockport's BSS say: We wanted to share this survey with you that BSS and Primary Jigsaw have co-produced. We are aiming to build a local picture of the impact of the pandemic on our children's emotional wellbeing and to use this information to plan interventions and support for September. <https://stockportfamily.typeform.com/to/Bn9eVvZe>

## **SUMMER BREAK ACTIVITIES**

We know that the summer break will not feel like the usual holiday period and appreciate that many of us will remain at home throughout this time. We have prepared some activity grids in the home learning section of the website as well as a 'self-care pack for primary children' which looks really interesting and could be completed by children over a number of sessions.

## **SOME THOUGHTS TO LEAVE YOU WITH.....**



*Tuesday 1 September: INSET*

*Wednesday 2 September: Y1-Y6 return*

*(and Nursery 2019-20 have one more day with Mrs Finney!)*

*Wishing everyone a well-deserved summer break; see you in September! Fionuala Boucher*