



Class Structure

With the opening of an additional class for the next academic year, we will have the following class structure from September:

Meldon Class (EYFS and Reception)

Mrs Teeder

Venford Class (Year 1)

Miss Keir (Monday to Friday) and
Miss Haworth (Monday and Tuesday)

Avon Class (Year 2)

Mrs Cherrett (Monday and Tuesday) and
Mrs Hutchinson (Wednesday to Friday)

Fernworthy Class (Year 3 and 4)

Mrs Kerswell

Burrator Class (Year 5 and 6)

Miss Blackhall

Government Guidance

As you will probably have seen on the news yesterday, the government announced their guidelines for schools re-opening fully as from the start of the Autumn term. This will be from Monday 7th September for St Mary's as there are two non-pupil days on the previous Thursday and Friday.

Drawing on our experiences of what has worked well in school this term for those children who have been attending, I shall be working with the Academy, governors and staff over the next few weeks to ensure that plans are in place for the Autumn term. These will then be shared with parents / carers.

Further information about government plans can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/schools-and-colleges-to-reopen-in-full-in-september>.

Safeguarding

Online Gaming

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command (CEOP) have produced some guidance for parents / carers, in collaboration with The Association for UK Interactive Entertainment (Ukie), about:

- How in-game chat works,
- How it might be abused by others, and
- What they can do to help keep their children safe whilst using in-game chat.

The full article and further information can be found at:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/in-game-chat/?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=176d7bc4c3-TUK_ONLINE_SAFETY_AT_HOME_30_06_20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0b54505554-176d7bc4c3-55417909

Gasha Studio

The NSPCC has sent the following message to schools:-

"A parent has shared a concern with us about a game called Gasha Studio (Anime dress up) – from what we can see, it's a game where people can choose avatars and create scenarios.

This parent found a concerning screenshot on her child's phone, which depicted a small female child character – she had labelled her "abused child" and a featureless adult labelled "abuser". They appear to be in a dungeon of some kind, and the adult is holding an unknown object.

Looking at the reviews on the app store, there are comments about inappropriate poses (pole dancing), that it is "not for kids", that you can't turn off the chat feature, and that the content includes child abuse, suicide, bullying and murder."

Please be aware of this app.

Prayer Focus

This week's word from the latest online edition of the Wednesday Word, is "Companion". The online Wednesday Word can be accessed via this link:

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/stopgap/Temporary-Special-Edition.pdf>

As a family, talk about the qualities that make a good companion (e.g. trust, kindness, honesty, loyalty, etc.). Then each say one thing that you can do to be a better companion to someone at home, at work or at school. Perhaps it is by: always trying to treat your friends as you would wish to be treated; saying kind and encouraging words to your friends; supporting and giving, rather than taking; being reliable, faithful and loyal. Our prayer this week is:

Dear Lord Jesus

You are kind and full of compassion. Thank you for offering to be our companion and sharing our concerns as we journey through life.

Amen.

Free School Meals

The Covid Summer Food Fund will ensure eligible children registered for free school meals by 10th July can continue to access support over the summer holidays.

All parents, including those of children in reception, year 1 and year 2 who may not have registered before as they were receiving a free meal through the universal infant free school meal offer, can find out if they are eligible here:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

CPRE Devon Competition

Thank you to everyone who sent through entries for this year's CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) competition. I have sent them all off and will let you know if we have any winners later this term.

Annual Reports

We are currently finalising the annual reports which will be sent home next week.

As there have been no statutory assessments made this year and some children have not been in school since the end of March, the attainment is based upon teacher assessments made at the end of the Spring term for all year groups.

Each report includes a space for parental / carer comments to be completed so please take this opportunity to give your thoughts on how your child has engaged in home learning and return the comment slip to school. Thank you.

Flu Immunisation

Thursday 3rd December 2020

We have received the following information from Virgin Care Services Limited:-

If your child is due to be in Reception to Year 6 from September 2020, they will be eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination.

It is anticipated that this will be delivered in schools between October and December 2020, (*St Mary's is booked for Thursday 3rd December*) and will be administered adhering to all up to date Infection Control, PPE and social distancing guidance at the time.

Flu vaccination is one of the most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential we deliver the vaccine to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society.

In light of the above we are expecting demand to be high and therefore we urge you to follow the below link to consent to your child's vaccination now. Even if you do not want your child to receive this vaccination, please complete the consent form stating "no" consent. You will also find answers to your FAQ's on this link.

<https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2020/dec>

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form please contact the Immunisation Team on our Single Point of Access (SPA).

Tel: 0300 247 0082

Email: vcl.immunisations@nhs.net

School Age Immunisations Team