



16th October 2020

Dear families,

We are fast approaching the half term holiday and I think everyone is ready for a break- it has been a very strange half term. The children and staff have worked hard which has led to the children making progress in their learning. The children are happy in school and have settled back really well; you should be very proud of them. Attendance across some classes is lower than we would want, so please remember that if your child is well, then send them to school unless they have been directed to isolate.

Unfortunately, we had to close the year 1 bubble this week and I apologise for the short notice. We act as quickly as we can on the information that we receive; please keep us informed if your child has had a COVID-19 test and the test result as soon as you possibly can. If children have been asked to isolate, then they are not allowed to enter the school to collect siblings- please inform us if you having difficulties with this arrangement.

Communication

If a bubble closes, we will communicate about school work with parents of children in Reception-Y6 via ClassDoJo. Please download the APP and log on using the parent code that your child brought home last week. If you do not have the code, then please email your child's class teacher on the following emails.

Reception- eyfs@stmarysjarrow.co.uk

Year one- yearone@stmarysjarrow.co.uk

Year two- yeartwo@stmarysjarrow.co.uk

Year three- yearthree@stmarysjarrow.co.uk

Year four- yearfour@stmarysjarrow.co.uk

Year five- yearfive@stmarysjarrow.co.uk

Year six- yearsix@stmarysjarrow.co.uk

We are aware that Class DoJo allows parents to purchase an additional service. We do not expect you to do this, as it is free app.

School events

Next Thursday, we are holding an aspiration day. The classes have been working on this in class; discussing possibilities of their future. We are asking that your child wears an outfit that represents what they aspire to be in the future. We do not want you to spend a lot of money on this. Be creative and use what you already have at home.



Next Friday, the children are taking part in an art activity. They are all going to produce a piece of art that represents nature. The teachers have gathered the resources and have produced an activity that the children will enjoy. I have challenged them to produce work that would make David Attenborough proud.

School dinners

We are returning to offering full hot meals after the half term holiday rather than two days of cold meals. A new menu has been produced and I will share this with you next week. We have spent the last six weeks adapting to the changes and all children now have their lunches safely in the bubbles and have enough time to eat their food. We may have teething problems when we change the system, but we will tweak them until it runs smoothly. Key stage 2 children can continue to bring packed lunches in if they wish, however we are continuing to ask that reception and key stage 1 children remain on school dinners. Packed lunches must remain in disposable bags.





Water bottles

Thank you for providing your children with water bottles. If you wish to purchase a school water bottle then please do on parent pay and we will hand them to your child. They must be taken home every night and refilled for the following day. This half term, we have provided the children with spare water bottles if they have not brought a bottle into school, however, we will NOT be continuing with this after half term therefore if your child does not bring a drink in daily, they will receive a drink at lunchtime but no other water will be given.

PE Kits

The children look really smart in their PE kits. Thank you for supporting us with the changes. A reminder that it is a navy tracksuit with a white t-shirt, however, a school jumper can be worn if needed. Shorts or tracksuit bottoms can be worn, but remember that PE sessions will take place outside where possible. Children cannot wear a named PE kit, e.g. Nike, Adidas.

Forest school

Next half term, children in reception and year 1, year 2 and year 3 will continue with weekly forest school sessions as long as the children have appropriate footwear. Unfortunately, the teacher may sometimes make the decision that it cannot go ahead if children are not dressed appropriately. Class teachers will share more information on their class newsletters next half term. Years 4, 5, and 6 will visit forest school at various times and the teacher will inform you before the event so that the footwear can be brought in by the children.

Parent consultations

We are arranging parent consultations to take place the week beginning November 9th. These will be via phone so please make sure that the school have the correct contact details. You will be able to choose an hour slot and the teacher will phone you within that hour. More information will follow in regards to this.

Mrs Tumelty
Acting Head of School

