



St Mary's R C Primary School, Clive Road, Failsworth, Manchester M35 0NW

Tel: 0161 681 6663 Email: info@st-marys.oldham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Ms M Garvey

"Called to Love as God Loves"

September 2020

— WELCOME — BACK TO SCHOOL

Firstly, we would like to warmly welcome all our children back to school after such an extended period of time. We are delighted with how quickly the children have settled into their new classes and routines.

We welcome new members of staff to our team. Miss Seddon has joined the Early Years team covering Mrs Bullock's maternity leave and Miss Green is our new Reception teacher. We also welcome Miss Matthews in Year 3.

We are pleased to announce that Miss Kelly has had a beautiful baby girl and Miss Murtin is enjoying adoption leave with her daughter.

We have received further lovely news from Mrs Gorman and Mrs McFee who are both expecting a baby next year.

Our very best wishes to them all.

School Improvement

During the summer break, we have again embarked upon considerable school improvement. Our Nursery has benefitted from artificial grass outside their classroom and a new aluminium door has replaced an old door to the Oasis Room in KS1.

The KS2 playground has been improved considerably. A new MUGA pitch has been installed for the Year 5/6 children meaning footballs and basketballs are contained within a cage. The Year 3/4 children are delighted with the new astro pitch and stage which will also provide shade on the playground in warmer weather.

We have also removed the bamboo and replaced it with a mesh fence.

Review of Collection Time

We would like to thank everyone for their patience regarding dropping off and picking up times. As you can imagine, it is a huge challenge to manage the safe arrival and collection of over 500 children.

Having listened to feedback from parents and staff, we have reviewed the risk assessment. **From Monday, 14th September 2020, we will be changing the time of the Year 1 and Year 2 collection time to 3.00pm-3.15pm.** KS2 will remain the same (3.15pm-3.30pm). This is to alleviate congestion on the KS2 playground at the end of the day.

Please remember that school have provided a 15 minute window to support social distancing and to avoid the queue on Clive Road when the gates open.

Trim Trail

Please could we ask parents/carers to ensure that children do not use the trim trail before or after school. As part of our risk assessment, year group bubbles have been allocated use of the trim trail on a weekly rota basis. When children outside of those bubbles touch the trim trail, it increases the risk of infection which could lead to multiple bubbles being forced to close in the future. Thank you for your co-operation in this important safety measure.

Parking

Since returning to school, we have received several complaints from our neighbours regarding inconsiderate parking. In an attempt to reduce parking on the local streets, the staff car park will again be used by staff to free up the church car park for use by parents.

School Office

If you need to contact school, please can we remind you that this should be done via the telephone or e-mail to minimise the number of visitors to reception. In addition, we are no longer able to pass any items that are dropped off at the school office to children. This is due to office staff not being allowed to enter bubbles across the school.

Sad News

I am sure many of you will have heard the sad news about the sudden passing of Father John. I take great comfort in the fact that I had spoken to him the week earlier and he was in great form as usual. He was part of a lovely community of Priests at the Cathedral Centre and was well looked after during his retirement. We will of course be looking at ways in school to commemorate the life of a special friend and Priest. His was a life well lived. May he rest in peace.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

Ms Garvey - Headteacher and Mrs Clerkin - Head of School

Stay With Us Lord On Our Journey



Follow us Twitter at @StMarysRCFW - if you are not on Twitter, you can follow us by scrolling down on the home page of the school website.