



St. Margaret's CE Primary School

Weekly Update 22nd January 2021



Dear Parents,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well. A huge thank you for all of your hard work in supporting your children with their learning. I want to say once again that we are aware of how much pressure families are under as they balance their own work commitments and supporting their children. We are really impressed with some of the work we have been receiving via Class Kick and Google Classroom- well done to our children. Attached to this update is a reviewed copy of the Remote Learning Policy for your information. It can also be found on the website. Please remember that you can contact us if you are having any difficulties and we will do our very best to help. We have been delighted by the positive feedback and many lovely messages received. In a situation in which so many areas of life are under extreme pressure it is good to be kind to one another.

Home Learning Updates

It is vitally important that we all stay safe online. The school website contains useful support and guidance on Online Safety. Please do make use of this: <http://www.st-margarets.durham.sch.uk/key-information/online-safety/>

We are aware that access to data can be an issue for some families. If you are struggling to meet the demands of your child's home learning as a result of this, please contact the office to see if you meet the criteria for free data access.

In order to ensure that all children have access to a wide range of texts whilst they aren't in school, we have purchased a subscription to the Oxford Reading Tree e-library. The library provides access to the reading scheme that we use in school. This is primarily for children in KS2 as the children in EFYS and KS1 are able to access reading books through Nelson Bug Club. There will be an e – mail sent out next week, which will contain more details about the e-library and how to access it.

Staff Testing

Starting week beginning 25th January, all primary school staff will be tested twice weekly for Coronavirus using self-administered lateral flow tests. Staff will self-administer these tests first thing on a Tuesday and a Friday morning and report the results after 30 minutes. This clearly presents a logistical challenge for parents and schools as any positive test result would lead to a bubble or bubbles closing until a second PCR test (the type of test taken at a testing centre) is undertaken. We will inform parents by text message, as soon as we are able, if your children are attending the school site, their bubble is closing and the children are required to self-isolate. We are, of course, hopeful that we will not have to take this action.

I thank parents for your continued support at this time.

Stay safe and stay well.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Tait



"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven", Matthew ch5 v16





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Toiletries Collection

Staff and pupils have begun collecting toiletries for patients in Durham University Hospital. These are desperately needed, because family are unable to visit and bring personal items into the hospital. Collection boxes will be positioned at the school gates each morning if anyone would like to make a donation. The children both in school and at home have also been drawing pictures and writing positive messages for the wellness wall in the hospital. It is heart warming to read such kind and caring thoughts at this difficult time— I know they will make a real difference to those who are alone in hospital.

Best wishes to the following pupils who are celebrating a birthday this week:

Lois F Charles W Eva-Rose A
Fraser M Elizabeth U Zain S
Jessica S



PE days will be changing for the following year groups starting from next week (W/C 25th January):

Year 6-Monday
Reception-Friday
Year 1-Wednesday



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