



Dear Parents,

I am delighted to be able to share with you that our two modest, but very important local trips out of school, with individual class bubbles were both very successful. The normality is beginning to return, thank goodness. Please find below a summary of events as we move through the Summer.

- **Holy Communion preparations** – well done to Y3 parents who have found the **Y3 SACRAMENTAL tab** on our school website. Thanks to Mrs Hayes and all staff involved in its preparation. **My thanks** to one very conscientious supportive parent who alerted me to an error on the track and trace form which contradicted the information last week. There will be an amended track and trace form sent out by this evening, **with space for 6 family members EXCLUDING the child receiving the sacrament.** Mrs Potter will be in touch with larger families of 4 or more children in due course. **My thanks to all families for your respect of the situation we find ourselves in.** Please keep a close eye on the tab to keep abreast of plans and expectations for the “Big Day”.
- **Swimming**- Well done to Y4 and their teachers and support staff. They were very well behaved and there were some well-deserved resilience awards given out, this afternoon. We were proud of them.
- **Mass attendance**- Well done Y3, who attended Mass in church this morning, in preparation for their forthcoming Holy Communion. Again their teachers and support staff, were very proud of their reverence and behaviour.
- **School uniform requirements.** Parents, in almost all cases, thank you for the adherence to rules with regard to;
  - Swimming track suits being plain grey, black or red PE wear or a combination of these.
  - PE wear not featuring logos, cycling shorts or leggings.
- It is really important to label them all, also. Thanks to the large majority who do.
- We have been lenient across lockdown due to shops being closed, but where rules are not being followed, we will be in touch. To give context, there are two very real wellbeing concerns to raise:
  - there are many inconsistencies in our world and in our communities, around labelled clothing- some have money to buy these, some do not. We cannot change those inequalities. In school, however, children are free of these trappings and we ask for plain clothing being worn. We will, of course give a reasonable window to purchase the correct gear, allowing for the lockdown closure, but look forward to your full co-operation.
  - Body image and pressure on children to conform to a certain look is a huge social pressure in our world, with supermodels and skinny skinny clothing being promoted as *the norm*. Here at school, children’s PE gear is clearly defined and excludes items which promote unhealthy scrutiny of each others’ or their own shapes and sizes. We will and have made allowances in the past, for specific cases, however these would only be on medical grounds. We expect children to be warm, smart and dressed fit for purpose- it is not anticipated that they will see it as fashionable. They will contest it- please work with us to create equality, on this one.
- **End of term early finish on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July** - from this term onwards, all end of terms here at St Mary of the Angels, will finish at the earlier time of 1.30pm. School collection on the final day of the Summer term will, therefore, **be 1.25pm for Nursery, Y1,2 and 3 and 1.30pm for Reception, Y4, 5 and 6.**
- **School Fund** – Thank you thank you thank you!. A further £160 has been donated since Easter. We will be in touch with the school council to see how we can share some joy with it.

## April/May updates and reminders -

- Next Monday is a Bank holiday. We pray for good weather and a lovely day for you all.
- Inappropriate behaviour of any sort will be challenged. Please refer to your Home School Agreements as we look forward to your full support when difficult conversations need to be had around physical aggression. My thanks to those parents I have needed to contact this week- your teamwork has been great!
- Remember that Grab Bag to Go continues each week, with Y6 each Monday, Y5 each Tuesday, Y4 each Wednesday and Y3 each Thursday. Their children are really enjoying it and behaviour is very good out in the wellbeing garden too.



## And Finally ...

We remember with affection, Mr Chris Patton (RIP), a well-respected member of the historical PTA and Governing Body here at SMA. We celebrate his life and pray for his family at this time.

**“Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another”**