

# St Mary's Primary School

January 2021

Bulletin

## Engagement

We have now completed two weeks of online learning and we are delighted by the engagement of our pupils. The first week we had a staggering 96% of children engaged in Teams throughout the week and last week that figure has increased to 98%. You are amazing!!!! This phenomenal response is due to the fabulous support of our parents, the commitment of our pupils and the dedication of our staff. We are tracking engagement in order to contact families who may be experiencing difficulties and to ensure we are providing as much support as we can.



## Parental Feedback

Thank you for the feedback provided last week. We have moved class check ins so that family groups are not competing for devices. We may have to adjust these at time goes on but hopefully you will see an improvement.

Several parents mentioned the option of using Zoom instead of Teams. Unfortunately we are not allowed to use Zoom in the authority and we are limited to using Teams with children and Webex if organising a meeting for parents.

Thank you for the positive and supportive comments, we are committed to providing the best online education we can. Many of you commented that supporting home learning is challenging, even more so if you are having to work at home. Please remember we understand these difficulties, our programme is designed to be flexible and we understand that not all children can complete all tasks. We are delighted that most children are now uploading their work so that teachers can provide feedback and assess progress. We will continue to monitor this and provide support where necessary.

## P1 Enrolments / Nursery Applications

P1 Enrolments are now taking place, if you have not contacted the school regarding this please do so asap. Our Nursery application process for 3-5 year olds is now open. You can contact the school office for information or go to the council website and complete the application forms there. [www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/elc](http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/elc)

## Dates for your Diary

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Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Family Fun Quiz @ 7pm



## Support

If you are experiencing technical difficulties, or you have any problems please get in touch. Mrs Craig is providing technical support and can be contacted on 07871914058 for anything else please contact the school or class teacher by glow email.

If you have any questions regarding the curriculum please contact the school as you would if the children were at school. There may be some opportunities during the class meets but they are mainly to check in with children and talk them through the tasks.

## Home Learning



By now hopefully you will have collected your home learning packs. We hope you find them useful. We also have some additional tasks on our school website if anyone is looking for some extra tasks. If there is anything you would find useful please let us know.

## Children in School

As you know, we have a number of children in school throughout the week. They have all been super stars! They are completing the same tasks as the children at home and have been working their wee socks off. Well done!



## Wellbeing Wednesday

To try and reduce some stress we have decided to introduce Wellbeing Wednesdays.

On Wednesdays there will be no new screen tasks and no assignments. It can be used as a day to catch up with tasks if required and all new tasks will be offline and focused on health and wellbeing. This will hopefully give parents a day to catch their breath too. Check ins will go ahead as normal but these too will have a wellbeing focus.

## Assembly

There have been a number of technical issues during our online assemblies, we will see how this goes but it may be necessary to have split assemblies going forward if the technical issues continue. We have been advised that issues with sound may be due to the volume of attendees. We are keeping our fingers crossed as having our school community together virtually is especially important while we are apart.



## Mobile Numbers/ Email

If you are not receiving any of our messages either by text or the Xpression App please call the school office. We also send out the monthly Newsletters/ Bulletins by email, if you are no longer using the one we have on file please contact the office. You can also check the school website for information from the classes and all our Bulletins too.  
Thanks

## Family Fun Quiz



Our Family Fun Quiz will take place on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm. This is the beginning of our holiday weekend and we are hoping that most of our families will join. Prizes will be sent out the following week.



## Best Wishes

As always we send our very best wishes to our young people and their families, it is a pleasure to see so many of them on our class meets as we miss them very much.

Keep going everyone – you are all doing an amazing job. The fabulous efforts you are going to at home to juggle your ‘normal life’ and your children’s education is hugely appreciated by us all.

There will come a time when we reflect on this incredible period and wonder how we managed, when we do we will be able to look back with pride knowing that collectively we have all worked as hard as we can to ensure the very best for our children.

Take care and God Bless

*Paula Brazill*

## REMINDERS

**Absence** - Please remember if your child is absent from school to call the office on the first day. Please do not email any member of staff as this may be missed if out of the building.

**Sickness/Tummy Bugs** – Children should not return until 48 hours clear due to passing on the infection.

**Gym Days** – No jewellery to be worn on gym days, all earrings must be taped up at home or removed prior to coming to school.

**School Ties** – Available from the school office - £4 each.

**New Contact Details** – If you have changed any contact details – Address/home/ mobile number or email, please pass this onto the school office. It is very important that we have up to date information in case of an emergency.

**Afterschool Clubs** – If your child attends a club and no longer wishes to attend or is missing a session please contact the school office, a register is taken for all the clubs run in school.

**Bus children** – If your child is not returning home on the school bus please inform the office or teacher by sending in a letter or phone call.