



HEAD'S LINES

Dear Parents and Families,

We hope you have had a chance to enjoy both the glorious weather and our lovely local area over the half term week. Being allowed to go outside to exercise for longer has encouraged many of us to take longer walks and bike rides. Mrs Playle's skills and balance are definitely a bit rusty - but she's determined to start cycling to school at least twice a week.

Yesterday we heard that we'll soon be allowed to meet in larger groups as long as we stay outside and follow the social distancing rules, meaning that some of us will see parents, grandparents, cousins and friends for the first time in ten weeks.

Yesterday we also had confirmation that the government plans to move ahead with its plans to increase the number of pupils attending school from next week. Some of our preparations are on the next page.

In the meantime, Miss Lewis, Mrs Sullivan and some of our half term learners made a new display for our entrance hall to welcome more pupils back...

We hope you like it!



Best wishes and stay safe.
Mrs Playle and Mrs Lawlor

A message from Scott, our vicar

Prayer: Review of the Day

I was fascinated to read that the number of searches for the word 'prayer' has skyrocketed since the outbreak of the coronavirus. I'm not sure if the increase is a result of those who would normally go to church on a regular basis moving online or those who maybe attend church occasionally or not at all turning to prayer at a time of need. Maybe its a bit of both. As a result, I have been inspired to post a number of short videos exploring prayer on the St Mary's Church Facebook page. Please do take a look: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/stmaryschurchchessington/>

Today I thought I would share one model of prayer that I personally find helpful. It's called 'Examen of St Ignatius' or 'Review of the Day.' It's a prayer to use at the end of the day and is a structured way of reflecting on the day and trying to discern where God has been moving in it and in you.

Firstly, find a comfortable place to stop and be still. Ask God to shine his light over the day and into your heart so you can see clearly what's been going on.

Secondly, run through the day like a video, remembering the sequence of events – the people you met, the tasks you did, the conversations you had, the places you went etc. Be alert to your feelings. Were you joyful, calm, sad, anxious, angry etc.

Thirdly, think about the positive things. What did you do well today? Are there things that others did that you are grateful for? Take a little time to thank God for the good things of today.

Fourthly, are there things that didn't go so well. Are there things you did or said that you regret or things that you didn't do that you wish you had? Don't condemn yourself – simply ask God for forgiveness and move on.

Fifthly, are there things that happened today that you want to particularly talk to God about? For example, maybe you discovered that a friend has had some bad news or you've been asked to do something that you are worried about. Pray about these and share your concerns with God.

Finally, take a moment to look forward to tomorrow. Offer it to God and remind yourself that God will be with you all the way through the day. You might like to close by saying the Lord's Prayer.

God Bless

Scott

In school this week!

Although our school hasn't been totally closed - there have been pupils here every week since the end of March - we are looking forward excitedly to welcoming more of you back into school and have been making plans and preparations for this over the past weeks.



We completely understand that you will want to know about the organisation of pupils returning and what plans we have in place to minimise risks when children are with us



As you can see, some familiar classrooms and spaces are already looking a bit different - we are making sure that all the resources, classroom layouts and learning areas are ready to welcome pupils back safely.

At home together information

Please do let us know what you have been doing at half term - we always want to hear your news!

caterpillar@stmarys.rbksch.org

butterfly@stmarys.rbksch.org

squirrel@stmarys.rbksch.org

hedgehog@stmarys.rbksch.org

fox@stmarys.rbksch.org

otter@stmarys.rbksch.org

owl@stmarys.rbksch.org

falcon@stmarys.rbksch.org

We are still here to support you



By waiting until the 8th June to reopen to pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, and by offering part time places, we believe that we have time to be completely prepared - our ambition is to offer some access to school based learning to **every pupil** in our school before the end of term.

Look out for Parentmails at the start of next week with more details for all year groups.