

St Mark's News

13th May 2020 Issue 14

www.st-marks.islington.sch.uk

Dear Parents, Carers

I hope this newsletter finds you all safe and well.

I'm sure like me, you will have watched the Prime Minister's address to the nation on Sunday where he announced a phased re-opening of schools from 1st June. Getting children back to school as soon as it is safe has always been a shared aim of all staff and governors at St Mark's but we can only do this when it is safe to do so. We're waiting for further guidance and clarification from the local authority right now, which will hopefully help us create a plan for a phased re-opening. We'll share this with you as soon as possible so you know what the school's reopening will look like in practice. It's a very unsettling time for us all, but rest assured that we're going to be doing everything we can to make sure we're ready to receive children from key groups if it's safe for our school to re-open in the coming weeks.

However, we're also not going to be pressuring anyone to send their children to school, since you know your children and personal situation best. We'll keep you updated with all our preparations for making sure the school is as safe as possible, so you can make an informed decision.

In the meantime, the school is still open only for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers. We know some employers will be encouraging you to return to work, but we're not in a position right now to extend places to other children until we receive further government guidance.

We'd like to thank you for your continuous support in helping your child learn from home. We'll need to keep going with this for a while yet, so please continue to do what you can and stay in touch with us about how your child is doing.

If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Warm regards,

Martha Braithwaite

VE Day Celebrations

The children who were in school last week spent some time making bunting and other decorations, as well as cooking using recipes from a war-time cookbook. This was all in preparation for a socially distanced outdoor tea party on the lawn on Thursday. The weather was glorious and the egg-less chocolate cake and cucumber sandwiches were enjoyed by all.

Photos of the day are on our website, along with some photos of our amazing new playground development.

Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 119 Vs 105

St Mark's School Vision