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Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Summer Term! It was delightful to see all the children on Tuesday returning with big smiles ready for another term. I always think the Summer Term is lovely with pleasant weather (most of the time) and lots of trips and visits and exciting learning. We look forward to a great term, which I'm sure will fly by!

### Summer Uniform

Summer uniform now applies. Please make sure that this is work as per our uniform code; for instance, no tights with summer dresses. **Girls in Year 5 or Year 6** may wear a short sleeve shirt, tie and grey skirt (no tights) if they choose, instead of summer dress. As we live in England, the weather can be changeable, so please make sure that your children have their coats and jumpers and, when appropriate, their sun hats. *Please try to help us manage school uniform by LABELLING EVERY ITEM CLEARLY.* As you can imagine, jumpers left outside when the children get hot playing are almost impossible to restore to their owners where there is no name label. A few minutes on your part can help us with this so much, so please do your bit.

Please remember that earrings are not permitted for pupils, so take them out and remove any nail varnish where this may have been applied in the holidays. Thanks.

### Clubs

Please find attached to this email a clubs matrix for the Summer Term. As you will see, we've taken care to ensure that there are opportunities for children to take part in a variety of activities as part of curriculum enrichment. It's taken a few days to sort the logistics, but clubs will start next week. Booking will be open on ParentPay from around 5pm, so please book over the weekend for the clubs that you wish your child to attend. Thank you to all our staff for their continued support with optional clubs.

### Traffic!

You can't have escaped noticing the horrible traffic we seem to be enjoying at present – everywhere you turn there is another set of temporary lights. I imagine, with all schools back next week matters may get worse before they get better. I was in a jam on the Purley Way for well over an hour yesterday – sometimes this is unavoidable and there's nothing you can do, but do leave enough time to get your children to school on time, or even consider walking, even part of the way. Less expensive fuel, less congestion, fitter families, less damage to the environment. Win Win!

### Covid-19 Update

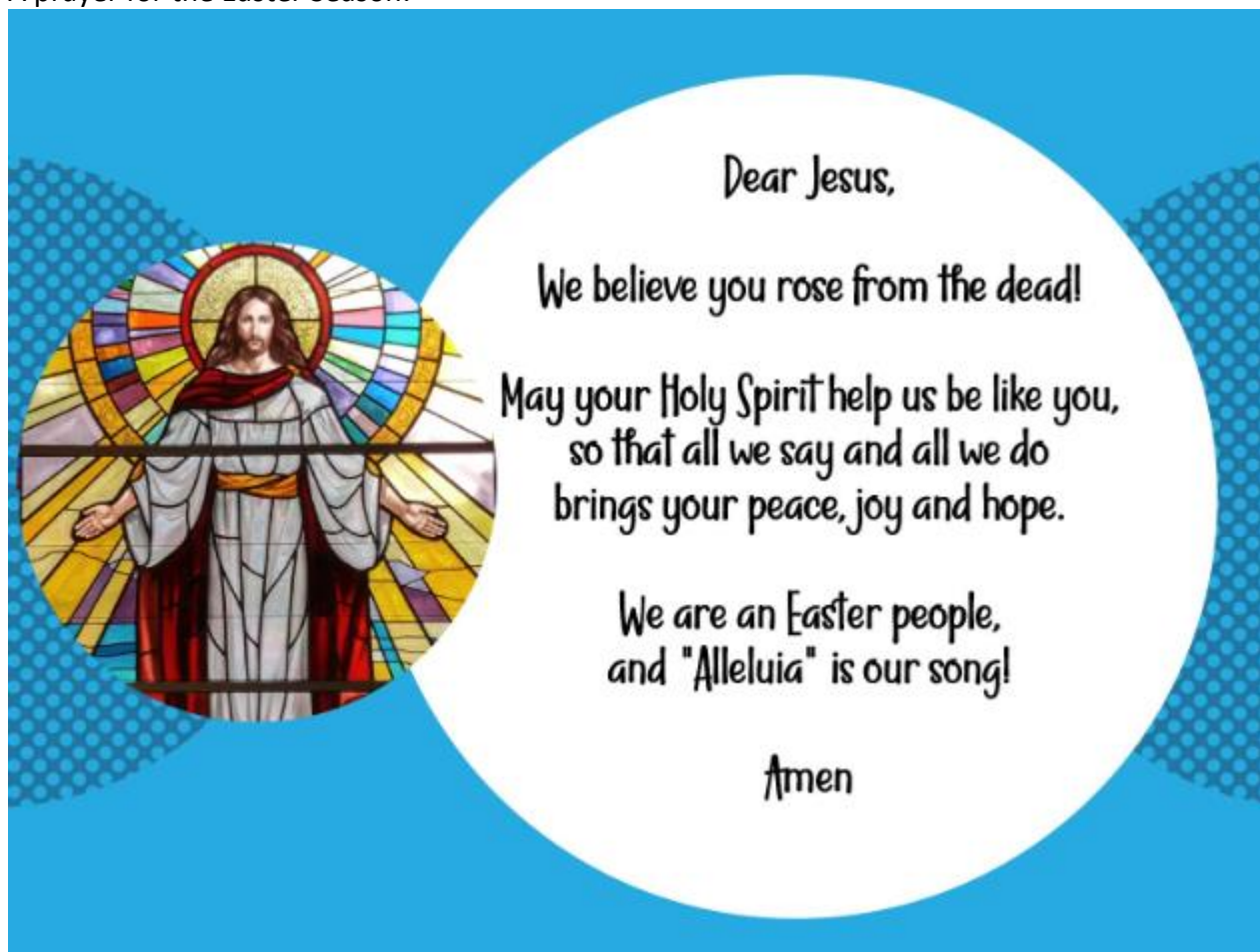
The Covid guidance was updated on 12<sup>th</sup> April. Please see: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19#Children>

Key information is attached as a screenshot to the end of the newsletter, but it's worth reading the guidance in full. Routine testing is not recommended and test kits are not provided for free. If a pupil is unwell, then they should stay off as they would for any other illness, returning when they are well enough. Please keep us informed and also update the office of any changes in contact details, as it is vital we keep these up to date.

### **Praying in the Easter Season**

I was delighted to be able to attend the children's Stations of the Cross at St John the Baptist on Good Friday and see lots of our pupils leading and reading so confidently. Well done all who attended. We are now in the Easter season, which runs until Pentecost on the 5<sup>th</sup> June. To support our school prayer life and assemblies, we use the TenTen resources and I have attached a synopsis of the Gospel assemblies we will be sharing this term for your information.

A prayer for the Easter Season:



### **Walk against hunger**

I am delighted to report that our fundraising for the Walk Against Hunger CAFOD appeal reached £1204. We are all overwhelmed by your generosity this Lent. Thank you so much. Next week, we will be sending a cheque off to CAFOD and also the sponsor forms, which enable CAFOD to claim gift aid – so please send any remaining ones that may be lurking at home. With gift aid, I believe that the overall total we will have donated will be around £1500. You have made lives better. Bless you.



### Catholic Schools Football & Netball Tournament

On Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>, Margaret Roper is hosting the Catholic Schools' Football & Netball Tournaments. This tournament hasn't run for the last two years, owing to Covid restrictions on social mixing. However, we are delighted that we are able to host it again – it's a big deal for our school; hosting nearly 500 pupils and parents from all our local catholic schools, and it takes a great deal of organization with all our staff involved. We are always very proud that our school offers the biggest event of the year in the Catholic schools' calendar, even though we are far from the largest school.

As part of offering hospitality to all our visitors, the Friends of Margaret Roper run a refreshment tent and sell bacon rolls, crisps, hot and cold drinks and so on. This is always commented on very favorably by our guests. I've been speaking to Jo Wiley and I know that she has asked for volunteers to help out on the day and possibly beforehand; I'm repeating that appeal now – we really need your help. Parents of children who are in the older year groups will want to watch their children compete, so please don't leave it up to parents in the oldest classes to volunteer – think of it as 'paying it forward' for when your children are in the upper juniors. Please let Jo, Daniela or your class rep know how you can help – every bit counts and if you can spare just one hour that's amazing. I'd hate for the first big event since Covid began to be stressful for the Friends of Margaret Roper – I'm sure that our parents will rally round as usual. Thanks in advance.

### Sports News:

*On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April, our girls' football team played St David's for the third time this year. This was a league match. St David's have improved since we played them earlier in the year, so we had to up our game. We went 1-0 up when Leila scored with a slow rolling ball into the goal. I then scored after I got through on goal and slid it into the bottom corner when the goalie came out. St David's got one back to make the score 2-1 before half time.*

*In the second half, Leila scored a third goal for us, after intercepting a goal kick. St David's scored one last goal to make it 3-2 at full time. Everybody played well; Marissa never normally plays in goal and had a good game there. We are through to the league play-offs so let's hope we continue our success!*

*Report by Gabrielle.*

Stars of the week:	Writers of the week:	Mathematicians of the week
<b>Ella G &amp; Lucy</b>	<b>Jake</b>	<b>Daniel</b>
<b>Amelia &amp; Sam</b>	<b>Caterina</b>	<b>Eva</b>
<b>Aron &amp; Mirin</b>	<b>Francesca</b>	<b>Florence</b>
<b>Miran &amp; Gabrielle</b>	<b>William</b>	<b>Advit</b>
<b>Dolcie &amp; Ja-El</b>	<b>Finlee</b>	<b>Vanessa</b>
<b>Alice &amp; Phoebe</b>	<b>Nathan</b>	<b>Isabella</b>
<b>Santi &amp; Edner</b>	<b>Maja</b>	<b>Elias</b>

This week's Attendance Awards are as follows:

Y2 - 99.5 % Highest Attendance and 100% Punctuality this week - well done Yellow Class!

Happy birthday to Lawrie, Y6, Millie, Rec, Valentina, Y5, Una, Y4, & Mateo & Melanie, Y3 who all celebrate their birthdays around this time. We hope you have/had a good day.

Have a lovely weekend

**D Mooney**

**Screenshots from Current Government Covid-19 Guidance:**

## **Children and young people (aged 18 years and under) who have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19**

Respiratory infections are common in children and young people, particularly during the winter months. Symptoms can be caused by several respiratory infections including the common cold, COVID-19 and RSV.

For most children and young people, these illnesses will not be serious, and they will soon recover following rest and plenty of fluids.

Very few children and young people with respiratory infections become seriously unwell. This is also true for children and young people with long-term conditions. Some children under 2, especially those born prematurely or with a heart condition, can be more seriously unwell from [RSV](#).

Attending education is hugely important for children and young people's health and their future.

## **Children and young people aged 18 years and under who have a positive test result**

It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.