



18th September 2020

lrr/jcl/stjcovid19.18092020

Dear Parents and Carers

ST JOHN'S MARLBOROUGH – COVID 19

As we have reached the end of the second full week, we have been able to enjoy excellent weather which I hope will continue into the weekend and beyond. This certainly helps with keeping the students outside at break and lunch. It is important to remember that being outside before lessons and during break and lunchtime, is going to be a requirement when the weather turns colder and wetter so please do ensure that your son/daughter has a coat to wear. They will be expected to be outside unless the weather is very inclement, and the installation of our covered outdoor seating area should help provide an acceptable area to congregate.

You will all be aware of the national picture, particularly in regard to the 'Rule of Six' and the potential further restrictions that may well come into play regarding the COVID-19 situation. As a school, we are constantly looking at our risk assessment and making the necessary changes to keep staff and students as safe as possible. So far, we have remained fully functional but I am aware of a number of schools in the area that have had to send home year groups for self-isolation. I sincerely hope that those decisions are not needed to be made here at St John's but I would like to reassure you that should we have to isolate any year groups, we have been constantly developing our ability to effectively and quickly switch to our remote learning platforms.

It needs to be said that your children have been brilliant at playing their part in school during life in the 'new normal'. There is rarely ever an issue with students not complying with the need to wear a facemask appropriately and socially distance using the extensive one-way system. They could be more diligent with using the large number of sanitisers though, so if you could support that message from home, it would certainly help! Similarly, I understand that they will also have to comply effectively with the current rules around socialising outside school. They have a lot expected of them and I personally feel we should be very proud of their generation. Hopefully they won't receive undeserved criticism out in the community.

Students Leaving school at the end of the day

If students walk past St Mary's School on the way home/into town at 3pm, we are asking that they cross over the road as they reach Duck's Meadow and walk on the other side of the road, opposite the entrance to St Mary's. This is because the primary school children also come out at 3pm due to current changes to the school day in both schools and are picked up by their parents, who have to queue on the pavement outside the school gates.

Principal: Mr I R Tucker BA (Hons), PGCE

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We have a large number of students who walk this way each afternoon on their way home or into town and by crossing over, they will help to reduce any anxiety due to sheer weight of numbers and close proximity to others within the community.

That is all for this week but as ever, I hope that you and your family continue to keep safe.

With kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ian Tucker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "I".

Mr I Tucker
Principal