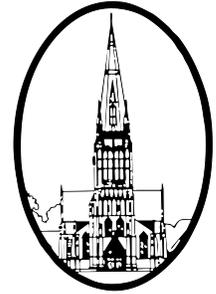


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**Headteacher: Jane O'Brien**



*"St Mary's.... feeding the mind, body and spirit so we can  
be the best we can be."*

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Hello St Mary's community,

Have you all had a good week? I think that this week has flown by, maybe it's because I have been very busy!



I told you I would let you know how my son, Evan's birthday went this week. Well, the cake I baked turned out well (see photo-what do you think?). It tasted delicious although all that chocolate made me feel a little bit sick. The family all stuck some notes around the house with fun and happy memories we had of Evan, so that everywhere he went he had something nice to read. It really made him smile. If anyone in your house has a birthday soon, maybe you could do the same thing! We played some games together including a treasure hunt of his birthday gifts and then we embarrassed him by organising all our neighbours to sing him happy birthday. He said he had a fun day and we made some happy memories.

**The birthday cake I made for my son!**

If we had been at school, today we would have been breaking up for the Easter holidays. Some of you may have been going on holiday, visiting family or friends or maybe just spending time at the park or doing nice things like going swimming. I am a little bit sad as I was going to go away with my family and friends to Norfolk and now we can't go. Instead we are trying to have lots of nice chats on the phone and when we can, try and see each other over the internet and play games like charades. I am trying not to think about the things I want to do, but try and enjoy the things that I can do now. If you feel a bit sad, maybe you should try and do the same! There are some Easter activities for you to do. What we can learn from the Easter story?



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There are lots of amazing people in the world at the moments that are helping people because they are poorly. In the UK these people work for the NHS. Have you heard that before? NHS. NHS stands for the National Health Service. In the UK if we feel unwell and need help to get better we can go to the doctor or to the hospital and you don't have to pay for it when you're there! This is great as it means everyone can get help if they need it. At the moment the doctors, nurses, ambulance people and the hospital cleaners and cooks etc. are doing an amazing job looking after people. To say a big thank you to all those people, families have been standing at their doors and windows giving them a big thank you, round of applause. You may have heard people talking about it on the TV or radio or you may have done it yourself! Every Thursday at 8pm people from all over the UK will clap to say thank you. As it's very late in the evening and you may already be in bed, if this is the case maybe you could do your own thank you clap with your family!



It's quite difficult to do exercise when we are spending so much time at home. Has anyone been doing the Joe Wick's PE lesson? I have done it a couple of times and I know Mrs McKelvey has been doing it with her daughter in the mornings. It's a great way to keep fit whilst we are at home. Try it if you can. It made me feel very tired, but afterwards I felt great and it made me feel energetic for the rest of the day.

### **Mrs McKelvey and Grace exercising with Joe Wickes**

We have been able to see roughly how many people are accessing the online learning through Google Drive. It's great to see so many children are enjoying the learning and activities their teachers have set. Some people have not accessed it yet. Is that you? If you can, try to get on. Your teachers would love to hear from you. If you are having trouble accessing the Google Drive then please look on the schools website as the activities are uploaded on there for you to too. On this note, please keep looking on the school website for updated information.

The school has registered to access Free School Meal supermarket vouchers. We hope that those families entitled to FSM will receive an email with a code to access their voucher by 20<sup>th</sup> April. We are continuing to offer childcare for keyworkers who do not have any other options available to them with regards to looking after their children when they are at work and this appears to be going



well. Again, with changing circumstances we will continue to review this to ensure its effective. If there are any changes we will be in touch.

Lastly, are you good at drawing? Can you think of some words/phrases that may cheer people up that are unwell? What message could you give to those that are helping others at the moment? Why don't you have a go at designing a poster that you could put in your window for everyone to see? That will make people smile. Maybe take a photograph of your poster and send it to the school email so I can see. I can share a photo of my poster with you next week.

The St Mary's team wish you all a great Easter break with your families and please stay safe by staying at home as much as you can.

Have a good week

Jane O'Brien  
Headteacher



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