

St. Mary's Mail



Date: 8th January 2021

St Mary's during Lockdown

Well, what a to start the new year! I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your support and your kind comments over the last week. Whilst we had a plan of what home learning would look like under another lockdown, mobilising the plan has required teachers to adapt, to learn new skills and to take the bold step to becoming Vloggers! I am once again incredible grateful to be working with such a creative, dynamic and committed team.

Many of you attended our parents' meeting on Wednesday evening. In this meeting we provided an overview to our approach to home learning (as detailed in Tuesday's letter) and were able to answer some questions. I will start to compile a list of frequently asked questions and send out my responses next Friday.

Although school is open we need to emphasise that this is a service of last resort for families who are on the frontline fight against Covid-19. With a national lockdown now in force, the very safest place for your child is at home. Where attendance is essential, children should only been in school on the days that childcare is required. If you find that you no longer need a day that you have booked, please contact the school office.

Quick Start Guide to home learning

You need to familiarise yourself with 3 websites:



- YouTube
- Zoom
- Oak National Academy

YouTube

Find our channel by searching St Marys, Yate or clicking this link and subscribing:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC1Nznc9hGDG8EOtSp1Hjgg>

The videos will be organised in year or phase groups to make them easier for you to find.

Zoom

You do not need to register to use Zoom. You will need the login details on the weekly timetable.

Oak National Academy

Teacher will direct you to lessons on the Oak Academy website. The links are on the weekly timetable.

If you have any problems access online learning, please contact the school office.

Changing Reading Books

As you know, we have invested a lot of time and money in improving our reading scheme. We are really keen to ensure that the children continue to read texts appropriate for their reading development during this lockdown period and are therefore encouraging our families learning from home to come to school to swap their books at a set time.

KS2: Monday 1:15pm—2:45pm

KS1: Tuesday 1:15pm—2:45pm

Reception: Tuesday 1:15pm—2:45pm

You can swap siblings books at the same time and if you are not able to attend your allocated slot please contact the office so that we can make alternative arrangements.

If you already have a book at home, please remember to bring it with you.

In addition to the physical books, remember that you also have access to e-books on the Oxford Owl website:

Oxford Owl Login: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Click on 'My Class Login' on the top bar of the page

Username: stmarysyate_5/6 *

password: stmarys