



Dear Parents

I hope you had a peaceful and holy Christmas and a great start to the New Year. The staff and I would like to thank you for all your generous cards, gifts and messages before the holiday – we really do appreciate it. The pupils have all slipped back into learning mode and it is lovely to see their enthusiasm for their learning and play.

We welcome to the staff Mrs Morrissey who is our new SENCO. She is an experienced SENCO who will be a great asset to the school. I know she will be hoping to meet up with parents of the school on our SEN register during this term. Please be aware that her working days will be Mondays, Tuesdays and alternate Wednesdays.

Is my child too ill for school?

This term is always incredibly intense due to the comparative shortness in weeks so it is important to be in school every day that we can.

This advice from the NHS website is a useful guide:

Cough and cold. A child with a minor cough or cold may attend school. If the cold is accompanied by a raised temperature, shivers or drowsiness, the child should stay off school, visit the GP and return to school 24 hours after they start to feel better. If your child has a more severe and long-lasting cough, consult your GP. They can give guidance on whether your child should stay off school.

Raised temperature. If your child has a raised temperature, they shouldn't attend school. They can return 24 hours after they start to feel better.

Headache. A child with a minor headache doesn't usually need to be kept off school. If the headache is more severe or is accompanied by other symptoms, such as raised temperature or drowsiness, then keep the child off school and consult your GP.

Vomiting and diarrhoea. Children with diarrhoea and/or vomiting should definitely be kept off school until 48 hours after their symptoms have gone. Most cases of [diarrhoea and vomiting](#) in children get better without treatment, but if symptoms persist, consult your GP.

Rash. Skin rashes can be the first sign of many infectious illnesses, such as chickenpox and measles. Children with these conditions shouldn't attend school. If your child has a rash, check with your GP or practice nurse before sending them to school.

Sore throat. A sore throat alone doesn't have to keep a child from school. But if it's accompanied by a raised temperature, your child should stay at home.

Chickenpox. If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school for five days after the rash first appears.

For further information please go to:

<https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Yourchildatschool/Pages/Illness.aspx>

If your child is not 100% but well enough to come to school, please let your teacher know. Please do not tell your child that they will be picked up if they are not feeling better... as this undoubtedly means the child rushes down to the medical room at 09.15 with a packed bag saying they are ready to be picked up by Mummy/Daddy as they are not better! If we feel that your child is not well enough to continue, we will always let you know.

Behaviour Workshops

Appropriate behaviour management courses coming up in the Bishop Stortford area are attached.

SECRETS TO BETTER BEHAVED CHILDREN (23rd January 19.00-21.00 St Joseph's School)

To book a place, please contact: Stort Valley & Villages Children's Centre Group Tel: 01279 696853

THE SECRET TO PARENTING BOYS (5th March 09.30-11.30 Thorn Grove School)

To book a place, please contact: Contact: Jo Deeks: 01279 696842.
www.aspects.org.uk

School Admissions- Nursery 2018-19

Please be aware that the Nursery admissions process begins on the 5th February 2018 for next year's intake. The Local Authority are no longer involved, so you will need to complete our application form only. This will be available from our website from 5th February.

School Admissions- Reception 2018-19

The on-time application process has now closed. We can still receive further applications, but they will be deemed late applications.

Good News from St Mary's

Congratulations to the staff and pupils at St Mary's for achieving an 'outstanding' grade in their recent RE OFSTED inspection before Christmas.

"The school has a rich and vibrant Catholic life which supports pupils academically, socially and spiritually. Pupils enjoy coming to school and are very proud to be a part of the community."

With so many of our pupils going on to St Mary's, it is great to read about the journey they have made from our school and the quality provision they are receiving in Catholic education.

Dinner Money for Juniors

Please note: Dinner money must be paid for in advance. School meals for the new term are £2.40 per day, £12.00 per week. Please pay online using the School Gateway system. All you need to do to activate an account is download the School Gateway from your app store or visit the website www.schoolgateway.com and click on new user. You will receive a message with a PIN number and you can use this to log in. Please be sure the school office has your up to date email and mobile phone number.

Important message from the Catering Manager:

Two weeks' notice in writing to Mrs Thompson is required for any changes to the children's dietary pattern. If your child is coming into school late due to an appointment please remember to book their meal when you ring in. Thank you.

Milk Order

Milk is available to all age groups through the school. If you would like your child to receive mid-morning milk please just visit www.coolmilk.com to register and place your order.

Communication you may have missed over the last two weeks via schoolcomms:

College parking
Key Stage 1 Masses
Lunchtime football Year 5
After school football Year 6
Netball Year 5/6
Speech and Language Programme (KS1)

Thank you for your continued support of the school.

Peter Coldwell
Headteacher