



Hermes – Our School Newsletter - Michaelmas Term



@stmaryskl



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Dear Parents,

I have been so impressed with the attitudes to learning and the continued collective way in which our children are coming together as a school community. One of the S.U.M.O approaches we have discussed is:

$$O = E + R$$

The **outcome** of a situation is equal to the **event** added to our **response**

We know that for some families, the response element to the recent events has been challenging due to isolation and adult and child mental health. For a significant proportion of our children, being in school and taking part in the normal routines of school has been a positive and essential way to move forward. Our key priority is to ensure that our children don't just 'survive' the pandemic but come out of this thriving.

To do this, we are making every effort to support the children in groups, individually and as a whole class. One key strategy is to provide as normal an education as possible whilst being safe, supporting groups and individuals to catch up and to maintain a positive social environment. In doing so, we believe the children will be able to move forward equipped and stronger and resilient more than before.

This half term has seen a sharp rise in the need to respond to mental health issues which our children are experiencing. We are so pleased that so many children in our school have maintained good health and have not suffered at the hands of the virus. We are in touch with families where counselling, pastoral care and additional support is needed. Hopefully, we will be able to maintain this. It could not be more evident that attendance in school plays a significant part in this, avoiding isolation. Where isolation does take place, keeping on top of online learning is essential. We hope you will try everything possible to keep your children in school, but be ready should we need to, to learn from home.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our community with regard to the chocolate donations and the support for Movember. We are beginning to package the chocolate hampers up so that they can be quarantined with the thought of distributing these later in December. Please do hand in any further donations this week.

It is our intention that our response this event – Covid-19 is one of positivity, practical support, determination to think beyond ourselves, whilst always keeping safe. I hope that you will continue to support our school to help your children.

Honesty Trust Responsibility Perseverance Respect



We have a super plan for December, full of positive experiences, which we hope will help the children in Advent prepare for a different and an equally good Christmas.

Should you find yourself in need of support at Christmas, we are working with the Community Cupboard to offer Christmas Hampers ready for Christmas. If your family would benefit from a hamper please fill in the form below. This goes directly to Mr Jones, who will happily deal with this confidentially. We don't want anyone to be in difficulty this Christmas and a hamper could help make the difference, so please request one.

<https://forms.gle/jvKNFdp9xcHxqF4q8>

If you are in a position to help donate food to support others, please see the below poster to help contribute.

Please take note of our recent calendar of events, sent on paper to help you keep on top of the various activities taking place.

We will be posting each day throughout December on Instagram and Facebook, to share what is happening. Please encourage friends and family to follow us to keep informed and see the lovely things the children are doing.

Finally, thank you so much for the wonderful projects that the children shared with their friends and staff this week. These projects not only enhanced the learning taking place in school but supported building confidence to speak to large groups. Well done and thank you!



Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Jones

Honesty



Trust



Responsibility



Perseverance



Respect



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