



# St Mary's and St John's CE School

*"With God, all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26)*

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*Wisdom Service Hope*

Principal: Martin Serrão BA, MEd (Camb)

21<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

INSET days Monday 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – Secondary Students only

I do hope this email finds you well and that you and your families have had a good Easter break. It is appropriate that as Easter celebrates a new beginning, we start this term full of hope for some semblance of normality as our society once again begins to open.

We have an update for you with regards to dates for the forthcoming term, so thank you for taking the time to read carefully.

As those of you with children in Years 11 and 13 will know, GCSE and A Level assessments will be carried out internally this year and teacher assessed grades (TAG) awarded. Exam boards will not be carrying out any marking or moderation of assessments as they have done previously, this will now be undertaken by the school.

This needs to be a very robust and rigorous process to ensure fair and equitable outcomes for all of our students.

The process will require sample marking, individual marking and moderation across subject areas and in some instances in collaboration with other schools. You will understand that this represents a considerable additional workload for our secondary staff in ensuring that this process is carried out absolutely accurately to ensure fair outcomes.

To this end, we will be implementing a further 2 Inset days (*for our Secondary students only*) on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June to allow for whole school marking and moderation to take place.

We hope that organising these immediately after half term break will be welcomed by families and reduce any inconvenience.

The Children's Commissioner for England has asked that all schools request that their students and parents/carers fill out the 'Big Ask' survey, the largest ever survey of children and young people in England. The results will be shared with the government to help determine how young people can be supported to live happier lives. Impressed as we always are by the resilience of our children, we have inevitably seen some worrying trends in well-being during this past year and would therefore encourage you to please complete the survey, which is linked below:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

Thank you as always for your cooperation and support for the term ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Serrão  
Principal

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