



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)

31st March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Easter Message

We are now well into a very different school year. So much has happened on a national and international scale which has required great resilience from us all. Our all-through vision and associated values, **Wisdom, Service and Hope** have truly been tested.

Easter is upon us and the story of the resurrection also brings us hope as we begin to emerge from our restrictions. We have been given an opportunity to reflect on the way in which we choose to live our lives as we have seen communities coming together whilst individuals attempt to divide us.

In the Easter story; the disciples and followers of Jesus lost hope as their world came crashing down around them. However, I have faith in our children's ability to enable new beginnings for our world, to be better leaders and less divisive individuals.

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking the truth"

3 John 1:4

At SMSJ facilitating this is our mission and we have been working on ensuring that all of our students return safe, feel happy and are secure. We do not accept that our children are a 'lost generation'. We are actively aiming to teach not just academic content but we are striving to encourage the positive mind-sets and characteristics that we associate with people who are successful in life: resilience, curiosity, empathy, openness to experience, attentiveness, perseverance, self-control and tolerance of diverse opinions. As this approach to teaching embeds itself we believe that SMSJ students will be: academically agile, independent, resourceful, bold, brave and responsive to feedback. Essentially, well equipped to provide new beginnings.

So for us the Easter story is deeply meaningful. It provides us with the hope and inspiration. I wish you all the love, hope and inspiration of the season.... giving special thoughts and prayers to our Year 11s and 13s as they prepare for their next steps.

I very much look forward to our return on Monday 19th April and again give thanks for your continued support and words of kindness during an unprecedented time. I hope you and your families remain safe and well.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Serrão'.

Mr M Serrão
Principal

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