



# 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 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a restful Easter break. We've all had to adapt to new ways of working, so we wanted to take the opportunity to say **thank you** for all that you are doing to support your child's wellbeing and learning during this time.

It has definitely been strange and challenging, so it's understandable if you and your child feel anxious and frustrated at the moment. We're here for you every step of the way as we figure this all out together.

Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by contacting your child's teacher. If your child has any issues at all, they can alert us on Classcharts by pressing the 'well-being' button, and a member of our Pastoral Team will be in touch to help.

We miss having the children in school, but we must continue to follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. So, we're carrying on with distance learning and keeping in regular contact with our vulnerable families.

Our teachers will be setting plenty of tasks for students to tackle over the course of the summer term. Do remind your child to take breaks away from screens as well, and also make time for having fun and connecting with friends and family.

While we can't say yet when we'll be able to open the school, rest assured that we'll continue doing our utmost to keep students learning and the school connected.

## Free Daily Newspaper

A free, daily newsletter has been made available for parents and carers at home with children, helping to enrich learning with real-life knowledge and skills:

<https://theday.co.uk/subscriptions/the-day-home>

## List of resources from the government

In order to support parents/carers further with aiding distance learning, the government have published a list of useful resources:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education>

**Primary Phase**, Neale House Campus, Prothero Gardens, Hendon, NW4 3SL  
**Junior Phase**, Bennett House Campus, Sunningfields Road, Hendon, NW4 4QR  
**Senior Phase**, Stamford Raffles Campus, Downage, Hendon, NW4 1AB



## BBC daily lessons begin

From 20th April, children will be able to access regular daily lessons in English and Maths, as well as other core subjects, in an expanded version of the BBC website and also on special programmes broadcast on BBC iPlayer and via the BBC Red Button.

## World Book Night on Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April

Reading boosts children's education as well as broadening their horizons. With World Book Day coming up, it is worth remembering the key messages from Ms. Gulderen's letter:

- 19% of readers say that reading stops them from feeling lonely.
- Regular readers for pleasure report fewer feelings of stress and depression than non-readers, and stronger feelings of relaxation from reading than from watching television or engaging with technology intensive activities.
- Adults who read for just 30 minutes a week are 20% more likely to report greater life satisfaction.

Sophia Thakur, author of *Somebody Give This Heart a Pen*, said:

"Our own world can be so many things in a day. From perfect to terrifying to undeniably impossible to understand. Escaping that, to tuck your mind into other worlds is a luxury everyone deserves. And sometimes. If we're lucky, we can pull some more sense back into ours."

If you haven't already sent a picture of your child reading a book with a caption of why they like the book (or just the picture of the book if you prefer) to Ms. Dale, please remember to do so by 23<sup>rd</sup> April so that we can fill Twitter with pictures of SMSJ students enjoying reading.

Please also see click on this link and enter a competition to access a free audiobook: <https://worldbooknight.org/>:

## Secondary Students Distance Learning

Our continued commitment to improve students' learning during this difficult time means we have refined further the way we will be setting distance learning. To support students and parents/carers to access resources more easily and to understand the learning set on any one day, each week we will email home, attach to Class Charts and upload to the website, the timetables found below. Each student in each year group will complete the same learning for any designated session. The timetable provides learning at different levels meaning students can personalise their learning depending on their ability, confidence in a given topic or the time they have available on that particular day.

[Year 7 timetable](#)

[Year 8 timetable](#)

[Year 9 timetable](#)

[Year 10 timetable](#)

In Years 1-6 teachers will be starting to incorporate the daily BBC Bitesize Daily Lessons to support their maths teaching. Other subjects will utilise the BBC material as we become more familiar with the online content. Teachers will provide core tasks and other activities to allow parents to choose the most appropriate for their child.

For Year 10 students the timetable has designated sessions for option subjects and the details of the learning for each option subject can be found at the end of the Year 10 timetable. We recommend that to help Year 10 students to plan their learning in their option subjects they designate their option subjects and record them in a table like the one below:

**Primary Phase**, Neale House Campus, Prothero Gardens, Hendon, NW4 3SL  
**Junior Phase**, Bennett House Campus, Sunningfields Road, Hendon, NW4 4QR  
**Senior Phase**, Stamford Raffles Campus, Downage, Hendon, NW4 1AB



**Before you start, write down one option subject on each row.**

*I.e. Option 1 - Art, Option 2 - Business, Option 3 - French, Option 4 - PE*

<b><u>Option 1</u></b>	
<b><u>Option 2</u></b>	
<b><u>Option 3</u></b>	
<b><u>Option 4</u></b>	

We hope these changes provide further clarity and will help you to support your child and their learning. If needed, please do continue to contact your child's class teacher for further support and guidance in particular subjects.

### **Safeguarding reminder**

Should students or parents/carers have any safeguarding concerns during school closure, please email our Designated and Deputy Safeguarding Leads:

Sarah Pittaway [secondaryhead@smsj.london](mailto:secondaryhead@smsj.london)

Simon Atkinson [primaryhead@smsj.london](mailto:primaryhead@smsj.london)

Marcelina Silva [msilva@smsj.london](mailto:msilva@smsj.london)

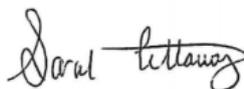
Please note that the school email will be monitored during usual school opening hours only. If a child is at risk of immediate danger please contact the Barnet MASH team on 020 8359 4066 or the police on 999.

We wish you and your family the very best of health. Please keep us updated if any immediate family member does become ill so that we may offer any support that we can.

Yours faithfully,



Simon Atkinson  
Head of Primary



Sarah Pittaway  
(Acting) Head of Secondary