



# The Saint Raphael's News



May Newsletter 2021 / John 15:9-17  
"My command to you is to love one another."

Dear parents and carers,

Firstly, I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. The children continue to work hard in school. Thank you all for your co-operation on the drive to ensure that the children can enter and leave school in bubbles and with social distancing for everyone on the drive.

**EID MUBARAK:** We hope that our families who have celebrated Eid al-Fitr this week have enjoyed this special time together as a family.



**MAY THE MONTH DEDICATED TO MARY:** During May the children will be thinking about the life of Mary and the example she gives us of following God. The children will be taking part in collective worship and liturgies devoted to Mary. The Year 6 worship leaders are recording a Mary liturgy which all classes can celebrate in their class.

Unfortunately, due to restrictions, we are not able to send the Mary Prayer bags home as we have done in previous years. However, we have sent a prayer leaflet home to all families for the children to pray to Mary at home. Any work that the children do can then be posted on Tapestry or Seesaw to share with their class.



**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME:** As you are aware we had to postpone the Sacraments of First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion due to take place last year for the children who were then in Year 3 and are **currently Year 4**. These sacraments will now take place in the Autumn Term when hopefully we will be able to celebrate fully together. The children will then be in Year 5. The new dates are;

First Forgiveness Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 at 6.30pm in St Peter's and St Raphael's Church.

First Holy Communion Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 at 10am in St Peter's and St Raphael's Church.

More details about the preparation of the children and the celebrations will follow. I am sure the celebration of the Sacraments will be even more special.

For children who are **currently Year 3** and who would ordinarily be on the Sacramental journey this year they will receive their Sacraments when they are in Year 4. The dates for their Sacraments are;

First Forgiveness Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 at 6.30pm in St Peter's and St Raphael's Church.

First Holy Communion Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 at 10am in St Peter's and St Raphael's Church.

Thank you for your understanding of these changes. If you have any questions please get in touch. I would like to thank Father Philip and Deacon Antony for their help with the changes of arrangements.

**YEAR OF ST JOSEPH:** Throughout this year the children are looking at the life of St Joseph and how we can follow his example in our lives. The children did some beautiful work during our Retreat Week and this is on display in school.

May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together



**PARENTS' EVENING:** We have Parent's Evening next week commencing Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2021. We will be using telephone calls for this as we did earlier this year. Parents have been able to book online and you will have received confirmation of your appointment by text/email. The teacher will discuss your child's progress and attainment. Appointments will be six-minute time slots. If you have any concerns that cannot be dealt with in the appointment time please contact school to arrange another appointment with the teacher. Next half term written school reports will be sent home.

**SUMMER TERM EVENTS:** We are hoping to be able to do many of our usual end of year events for the children in school and for our Year 6 leavers but obviously at the moment the details for these will depend on any restrictions that are in place at the time. We will keep you informed of dates, events and arrangements when we can.



**NSPCC NUMBER DAY:** On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May we are taking part in the NSPCC Number Day. This will be a non-uniform day and the children are invited to wear clothes with a number on or that links to number or Maths if they have them. If not, the children can come in non-uniform. If you wish to make a donation to the NSPCC we will put a collection bucket at the entry to school that day. In school the children will take part in lots of fun maths

activities.

**SWIMMING LESSONS:** Year 3 and Year 4 are enjoying swimming lessons each week during Summer Term 1 and Year 5 and Year 6 will begin swimming lessons in Summer Term 2 after the half term.

Year 5 and 6 start their lessons on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021 in the afternoon and will be travelling on a school bus in their class bubble accompanied by school staff. All children will require a one-piece swimming costume or swim shorts and a towel. If your child wears goggles to swim, please provide a note for the swimming instructor. The children do not need to shower gel, deodorant etc. If you have any questions, please contact your class teacher via seesaw.

**UNIFORM:** The children have returned to school looking very smart. After Easter the summer uniform can be worn.

#### Summer Uniform

- Grey skirt/pinafore/trousers or grey shorts
- Dress - Gingham Blue
- Blue short-sleeved polo shirt or school polo shirt (available from uniform suppliers with school badge)
- Footwear - Only sensible, black footwear may be worn. Boots and trainers are not allowed.

**Jewellery:** is not permitted at any time. (except a watch-not a smartwatch), this covers earrings and includes those covered by plasters.

**Hair:** Long hair should be tied up, no extreme hairstyles are allowed, e.g., bleach, tramlines, highlights, spikes etc.

Thank you for your co-operation with this. - full details of the uniform can be found [here](#).

## COVID-19 UPDATES

**COVID LATERAL FLOW TESTING** As parents or families of children at school the Government has announced that you can order 1 pack of home test kits containing 7 tests for home delivery or these can be collected from the Darnton Road Test Centre in Ashton and local pharmacies. The online link is; <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff#order-home-test-kits-online>

**COVID TRACK AND TRACE:** Please continue to inform school of any positive cases or isolation periods for the pupils or their families. The email address to contact is [head@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk)

Information and links to Covid 19 guidance is available on the school website.

**CORONAVIRUS UPDATES:** Please see our website for communications from the DFE in relation to the Coronavirus. Guidance specifically for educational establishments can be found below;

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare>

The latest updates to the guidance account from the changes as part of the next step of the roadmap from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021. We anticipate further updates to the guidance ahead of the next step of the roadmap from 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021.

**CONTACT DETAILS:** We are continuing to send newsletters and other information through our text and email services. Please ensure that school has the correct contact details for you at all times. If there are any changes to your mobile numbers and/or email addresses please inform us as soon as possible to ensure we have the correct contact information on our systems and we can keep in touch with you.

**SCHOOL MASSES:** As you are aware due to restrictions, we are not currently able to have Mass in school. Times for Masses and services at St Peter's and St Raphael's Church are on the parish website.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Take care and stay well.

### Dates for the Diary

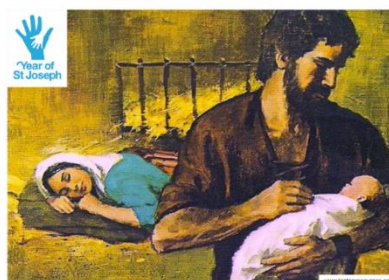
MAY 2021		
WB 17 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening	Details to follow
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Number Day - Non Uniform Day	All day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	School Closes	Usual bubble times
JUNE 2021		
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	School opens	Usual bubble times
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Full Governing Board Meeting (Virtual)	4.30pm
JULY 2021		
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Healthy Schools week -Freddie Fit Day	All week
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Skipping Workshops- all classes	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Summer starts here-details to follow	All day
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	School closes for summer	Usual bubble times

Mrs Lynn Lakner (Headteacher)  
Next Newsletter: June 2021

[head@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk)/0161 338 4095

### Year of St Joseph Prayer

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
Show yourself a father  
And guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage  
And defend us from every evil.  
St Joseph Pray for us.



May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together