

Dear Children (and your Parents),

How are you all? School has been busy since you left two weeks ago and so I thought I would write to let you know a few things. This week, teachers in school have been learning how to use Google Classroom. They have been “the pupils” and Mr. Le Rossignol, an amazing teacher. Thank you, Mr. Le Rossignol, for all the hard work you have done and many, many hours of time, to help us learn new skills. Children, this will mean most of your learning will be online after Easter ... we hope. So, watch out for instructions on how this will work. Don't expect anything until after April 20th though...we need a holiday too!

Firstly, we miss you all very much! School is very quiet, and all the teachers feel lost without you there. We miss your smiling faces and we miss the laughter and excitement that you bring to St John's School every day.

The teachers are all well and we are trying to make sure that only a few of us come in each day to support any children who need to be in and prepare for our eventual return to St John's. Over Easter, we are not due to have any children here; however, we do have a team ready to volunteer for St Mary's School, if their numbers of children increase, or any staff become unwell. The parents of these children have very important jobs currently and so these children must be in school, despite knowing that all the other children are at home. As you would anticipate, staff at your school are always willing to help where they can at this challenging time and are always demonstrating “thinking, learning and caring.”

I hope all of you are OK. Remember at this challenging time, that while keeping up with reading is important, singing, drawing, painting, cooking, dancing and exploring the garden are also important. We have been blessed with good weather so far and at this time of year, being outside is a fabulous place to be. Maybe you could take photos of your garden each day and notice the changes that are happening in nature? I hope you are also remembering the most important job you have now and that is washing your hands. I know that your hands might get sore, but it is important. Maybe you can see if someone at home has hand cream that can help ease the soreness? Above everything else, remember to be patient and kind to those around you.

I feel I must mention a special group of children too. When we finally get back to school, we don't know if we will be in time to say a proper goodbye to our wonderful Year Six class. We know that you may feel worried about your future at St John's. Rest assured Year Six, no matter what happens, we will make sure we get together at some point before you move on to pastures new.

Finally, don't be fearful, be hopeful. If you are worried about anything, tell a trusted adult and let them keep that worry for you. There are lots of scary things happening on the news now but try to look for the good. Find the people that are helping because in situations like this, there are always good people out there helping. Things are changing every day and maybe those changes will bring good things for the future. Maybe we will begin to see a different way of doing things from now on that will improve all our lives.

In the meantime, all the staff in school wish you and your families good health. Each one of you are an important cog in the St John's School family and until we are all back together, school won't be the same.

Take care and we will, I hope, see you soon,

Mrs. De La Haye.

Trudie De La Haye | Head Teacher