

# St Mary's RC Primary School

*'Growing, loving and learning in the arms of Mary'*

Meadowside  
Sunderland  
SR2 7QN  
Telephone 0191 5228787  
Headteacher Mr M. Clephane



07/05/2020

Dear Parents / Carers and Children,

It has been seven weeks since the announcement that schools were to close. Over that time St. Mary's has remained open for key workers' children. Numbers have varied but the very small numbers after the first couple of weeks meant that we made the decision to join the Local Authority initiative to become one of eight Hub schools in the city. This has meant that St. Mary's have welcomed small amounts of children from St. Joseph's, St. Leonard's and St. Cuthbert's as well as our own. As a result the minimum number of schools were needed to be open.

We would like to thank all of you who have home schooled their children over this time. I am sure it has been frustrating at times but I also hope that it was able to be a special time to be together as families. We have contacted all families by phone over the past couple of weeks just to touch base to make sure everyone was well and this has been a really positive experience. We thank you for all your supportive comments and the lovely videos that some of you have put together to say how much you are missing St. Mary's. Please check the school website to view our staff presentation video to let you know that we miss you all.

Yesterday we had our May procession to crown Our Lady here at school. It was very different without the whole school and we were joined by children from St. Joseph's which added to this unique celebration. I am sure Our Lady is looking down on us at this difficult time and we ask for her intercession to help us get through it safely.

We are still awaiting any official change to policy and relaxation of the lockdown but I feel it will be coming soon. Until then I hope you and your families stay safe and well. I hope you can enjoy the VE Day celebrations and we will be reminded once again that 'we'll meet again' and hopefully it will be soon.

God Bless,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Clephane', written in a cursive style.

Mr M Clephane,

Headteacher

The Governing Body of St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School and the Diocese are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and the highest priority is given to following the guidance and regulations to safeguard them and we are committed to respond in accordance with Local Safeguarding Board procedures E-Mail: [info@smrc.school](mailto:info@smrc.school)  
Website: [www.smrc.school](http://www.smrc.school)

