



26th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As we break up for Easter, I want to wish you and your families all the very best for the festival and the holiday. The Christian festival of Easter marks the resurrection of Christ; in the UK, Easter occurs during springtime when nature seems to be resurrected after the senescence of winter. This year we are also in hope that our own social and family lives can be resurrected after over 12 months of lockdown. There is a message below from Hertfordshire County Council, detailing the gradual lifting of restrictions over the next two weeks, and what we can (and also cannot) do. Please check this carefully and ensure your children are behaving within these boundaries and so do not put your family at risk (as well as putting the school community at risk when we return in two weeks).

Every child has been given a home test. Please continue to conduct these twice a week during the holiday and report the results to the NHS track and trace site. The last test should be timed to be the evening before your child returns to school (this will be the evening of Monday 11 April for most students, but will be later for 6th formers who do not have timetabled lessons on Tuesday 12 April).

You only need to report your child's positive results to us if he/she has one; please use the email address: attendance@st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk to do this. I may need to contact you to tell you that your child needs to isolate if there is a report of a positive case that your child has come into contact with.

It only remains for me to thank you for your support this term and wish you well for the Easter break.

Yours faithfully

Nicholas Simms
Headteacher

Pto..

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE IS EQUAL: EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST

Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire EN7 5FB t: 01992 629124 f: 01992 643354
e: admin@st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk w: www.st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr Nicholas Simms B.Sc. (Hons), NPQH

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Hertfordshire County Council has asked us to share this important update with you ahead of the Easter holidays:

As we go into the Easter holidays, and some Government guidance changes around socialising outside and outdoor sport, it's so important that we don't let our guard down and increase the risk of Covid-19 outbreaks when schools return.

From Monday 29 March, you can;

- Meet up outside (including in private gardens) with six other people, or as two households*
- Take part in formally organised outdoor sports with any number of people (outdoor sports venues and facilities will be able to reopen)*
- Childcare and supervised activities will be allowed outdoors for all children*

You and your family can continue to keep yourselves and others safe by:

- Washing your hands regularly, for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water or using an antibacterial hand sanitiser if soap and water isn't available*
- Keeping socially distanced, staying at least 2 metres away from those not in your immediate household*
- Wearing a face-covering where required and when it is difficult to socially distance*
- Self-isolating and getting tested if you develop symptoms or receive a positive lateral flow test (LFT) result*
- Not socialising indoors with anyone who isn't in your immediate household. You're not allowed to have sleepovers or playdates, even if your child is in a school bubble*
- Not sending children back to school ill or with symptoms of Covid-19 after the Easter break – if your child is sick, please keep them at home*

If your child is in year 7 or above and taking regular LFT, you should encourage them to continue to take these and report results as normal during the Easter holidays. If they receive a positive test at home, everyone in your household must begin self-isolating immediately and you need to book a PCR test to confirm the positive result. Any positive tests received up until 1 April, should be reported to your school so that they can complete the track and trace process with the Public Health team.

Babies and children in early years settings, nurseries, infant and primary schools should not be taking LFT, please don't do home tests on younger children. If you are worried about small children or they develop symptoms, please seek advice from your GP or call 111.

Thank you again for playing your part and helping to keep our schools safe and open for face to face learning.

We wish you all a safe and happy Easter.

Hertfordshire County Council

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