



**SAINT AMAND'S**  
Catholic Primary School

St Mary's Road, East Hendred  
Wantage Oxon OX12 8LF  
Tel: 01235 833342 Fax: 01235 861320

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Ellery

Chair of Governors: Mrs Kath Oldham

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3 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to all children and families; we have missed you! We extend a very warm welcome to our new families joining the school community. Children are happy and settled. It is lovely to have them all back and there is once again a buzz in the school.

We appreciate end of day pick up might not always go smoothly with everyone back at school and timings to juggle; thank you for following our safety plan and keeping to the staggered times. Maintaining social distance with other adults around the school gate is appreciated. Just a reminder if you have more than one child in school you can choose the earlier drop off and later pick up times. On a lighter note, forgive us for looking blankly at your car as you approach the gate - we are unable to see you because of the dark windows and light! We joked that it would be a good idea if your children made a large sign with their name on, to go on your windscreen so that we can call children forward a little quicker, (or a paddle for you to wave out of the car window!)

The Autumn Term will unfortunately be different for parents in terms of being able to visit the school and share in our worships, celebrations, reading mornings etc. It is not until we are unable to do these type of gatherings that we appreciate how important they are to the school community. Staff are in the planning stage of how best we can involve parents in the life of the school. Staff will be posting work and photos on their class pages to keep in touch. We also have our new Facebook page and Twitter account which we will post on, if you give your consent- please follow us! **Please will you let Debbie know if you do not want your child to feature in any school posts on Facebook and Twitter. We will not use the names of children.**

**Mary's Meal-** <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/>

On our Facebook page we have just launched our new charitable project for this year. We have been inspired to sponsor the Redeemed Elementary & Junior High School, Liberia. Help us to enable every child to eat one meal a day for a whole year at school. It costs just £15.90 to feed one child for a whole year. It is such a fantastic project and we are planning to get children involved in sponsored events and fundraising, to reach our target. Information and how to donate can be found on the following link.

[https://giving.marysmeals.org/en\\_gb/projects/qzol-the-love-we-feel-for-mary-s-meals](https://giving.marysmeals.org/en_gb/projects/qzol-the-love-we-feel-for-mary-s-meals)

Alongside this we are still collecting backpacks for Mary's Meals- also on Facebook and it will be on the website. Please consider making up a backpack to donate, maybe join with wider family. The contents are specific and we will send further information again next week. Last time we sent 52 backpacks to Mary's Meals. This will run until the end of September. Thank you very much.



Diocese of Portsmouth with Oxfordshire County Council

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Web site: [www.st-amands.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-amands.oxon.sch.uk)





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### Clubs

At the moment after school clubs will be limited to Football Coaching on Mondays, Yrs 1 -6 and Multi Sports Club for KS2 (Red Kites & Squirrels in Term 1; Hedgehogs and Badgers in Term 2) on Thursdays. Debbie will email details on Monday next week.

Forest School for Yr 1 in Term 1 will commence on Friday 18 September. Reception will begin Forest School on Thursday 24 September. Further information will be sent out next week.

**Covid-19** – in the event of your child becoming unwell at school with a temperature above 37.8C, a new continuous cough and/or a loss of sense of smell or taste we will contact you immediately and ask that you collect your child as soon as you can but within one hour. In the present situation, we need to be more cautious with any illness children may develop at school, for example sickness and headaches. We will contact you if your child becomes unwell for you to collect them. Please ensure that if your child is unwell in the morning, with anything other than a runny nose, that you keep them at home and let us know before 9.30am. The usual timings for sickness and diarrhoea apply. Thank you.

### Latest DfE advice

It is vital that only if children or staff develop [symptoms of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) – a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – do educational settings ask them to self-isolate and recommend they get a test. The NHS Test and Trace system is fully up and running, but capacity must be protected for those with symptoms of the virus.

### Updated DfE guidance for parents and carers

We have updated our guidance for parents and carers on [what they need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#).

Best wishes

*Helen Ellery*

Headteacher



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