

# ST MARK'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher: Ms Laura Kelsey BA (Hons), PGCE, CEPQH

Thursday, March 19, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Government Enforced Closure

Public Health England have announced blanket closures of all schools from Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020, and we would like to inform you about how we will communicate with you and what work our teachers have set. **Please keep this letter somewhere safe so that you can refer back to it!**

## Key workers

At this time, we think we will be open for the children of key workers and vulnerable pupils each day and over the Easter holidays for key workers who require this. At this moment in time, we have not had any information from the government or local authority about who the key worker are – we will send this out as soon as we have it and ask you to complete a google form if the criteria apply to you so we can get an idea of numbers. This will be child care only rather than education and we will be operating on a rota system for staff.

## What work will be set for my child?

At St. Mark's, the teachers have sent home remote learning packs and each child should have received their username and password for sumdog [https://www.sumdog.com/user/sign\\_in](https://www.sumdog.com/user/sign_in) (our school code is **st\_707** you will need this to log in) and ttrackstars <https://ttrackstars.com/> (our school postcode is **RH17 6EN** you will need this to log in). If you have lost username or passwords, please email [head@st-marks.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-marks.w-sussex.sch.uk) and I will send them out to you.

We will also be setting daily Maths and English work on the class pages on the school website <https://www.st-marks.w-sussex.sch.uk/topic/class-information> as well as topic based work on a 'Creative Curriculum Grid' so that you can pick and choose activities (as long as the internet is working). Of course, if teachers become ill then the class page may not be able to be updated daily but I will let parents know if this is the case.

Please keep evidence of these completed activities, as there will be rewards available from their class teacher for everything they complete!

## What can I do if they complete the work that is set?

- Online educational publishers, [Twinkl](#), have offered parents free access to all its resources for a month to support continued learning at home. All you need to do is enter UKTWINKLHELPS to get started.
- For kids who love science, the [Children's University of Manchester](#) website is an excellent interactive resource in which your child can browse a number of different science topics, which have a quiz at the end of each unit.
- [BBC Bitesize](#) is an excellent online resource that provides students help with revision and learning. Here you will find a number of free videos, step-by-step guides, activities and quizzes by level and subject on every subject for students aged from three to 16 and over.
- For those of you who enjoy making crafts with your child at home, [Activity Village](#) is a great resource for ideas and templates to develop creativity at home.



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- Go for some virtual tours around some museums in different parts of the world  
<https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>
- **Spelling Shed** <https://www.spellingshed.com>
- **Maths Shed** <https://www.mathshed.com>
- **Picture News** <https://www.picture-news.co.uk>

## What if I need to contact my teacher/the school?

Whilst we are closed, should you have any questions or queries, please email them to [head@st-marks.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-marks.w-sussex.sch.uk). This is my school email address, which I will be checking every day. I will ensure that any queries are shared with the relevant teacher and will email you back as soon as I can.

Throughout the closure, the school will be following all government guidelines, and it would be helpful if you could avoid using this email for anything other than emergencies or queries relating to your child's work.

## How will my school contact me?

All letters will go on the school website (go to 'News & Events' and then 'Letters') and sent out via ParentMail. We will endeavour to keep you informed of every step we take, in line with the government guidelines.

We all know that this is a challenging and unprecedented situation – each school has to follow their own procedures, and I would like to thank you all for your patience and support during this difficult period!

I would like to finish with a prayer for our whole school community: "Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support us, protect us, guard us and watch over us, lifting up all who are brought low, that we may rejoice in your comfort, knowing that nothing can separate us from your love. Amen."

Kind regards,

Laura Kelsey  
Headteacher



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