

13<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

After almost a full half-term back at St Mary's, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuous commitment and support. We have been presented with a range of challenges and obstacles regarding Covid-19, but the courage and resilience of our children has kept motivation levels high!

Looking ahead to next week, I wish to share with you our proposed plans for collecting your children at the end of the day. Please note, these plans are always subject to change given the shifting landscape of Covid-19, and will be regularly reviewed due to the range of factors that influence our risk assessments and whole school operation.

We are aware that, particularly as the weather has started to become colder and wetter, the pavement area outside of school has become more crowded and it has become harder for parents and carers to safely socially distance. In light of this, we have taken the decision that from **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October**, parents will be able to collect their children from the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 playgrounds instead of on the gate.

You will be able to enter the school premises through the Year 5/6 gate and then walk left to collect Year 5s and 6s from the UKS2 playground or walk right to collect Year 3s and 4s from the LKS2 playground. There will be members of the school team on the gate to guide you if you are unsure.

At 3.10pm, your child will be released from class and lined up on the playground to be dismissed. In doing this, you will also have the opportunity to check in with your child's class teacher where necessary. Please ensure you maintain social distancing at all times. Where possible, please ensure you limit collection time to one parent per child to minimise crowding. You may also wear a mask if you wish, though this will not be enforced.

If you wish to give your child permission to meet you in a different area/place, or to walk home alone, please contact the school office. Please note that dropping off in the morning will remain on the gate, from 8.35am.

We look forward to seeing many of you on the playgrounds next week.

Yours faithfully,

**Aziza Cranmer**  
Principal

