



OUR REF :

TRN : 100483609200003

DATE : Thursday, 28th May 2020

To: The Parents of students in Years 1 - 4 : Seventh update for the extended phase of Distance Learning

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. We trust that this update finds you and your families continuing to be safe and well. We hope that you had a restful Eid break and we understand now that many parents will have returned to work with the opening of businesses in Dubai from the 27th of May 2020. We wish you good health and safety as you adjust to this new way of working in this 'New Normal'.

THIRD REPORT WITH FEEDBACK TO PARENTS:

We are in the process of preparing a third report based on the work done by children over the last two months. ***We have marked this report out of 50 and additional formative comments will also be included for each subject.*** For English, Math, Arabic and Science, teachers have been conducting Assessment for learning during their live sessions and will also be looking at assignments that have been given over the last few weeks. For other subjects, teachers will be looking at the work done over the last few weeks. We had requested parents to kindly send the specified work in a zipped folder by Sunday, 24th May. ***We would like to reiterate that we had only asked for work that had already been assigned over the past weeks and which should have been well completed. We have accepted work sent in even today but it has been disappointing to have had to make phone calls to many parents today reminding them to send work in. Please be informed that we will not be able to credit any work that is sent after 12:00 pm Friday, 29th May 2020.***

EMAIL NOTIFICATION TO CLASS TEACHERS FOR MEDICAL ABSENCES:

While most parents have been contacting class teachers in the case of medical absences not all have. May we request you to kindly drop an email to the class teacher stating that your child may not attend live sessions due to medical reasons. We completely respect your privacy at this time and there is no reason for you to share any details of the medical illness but do let us know so that we may log in the absence as justified.

UPGRADE TO ZOOM 5.0:

After 30th May 2020, the older version of Zoom will not work. We had sent all parents a reminder notice with a link to download the latest version of Zoom with enhanced security features. Please ensure that this is done without fail.

RETURNING OF ASSIGNMENTS FROM 31ST MAY 2020:

From Sunday, 31st of May any assignment sent for a child to do on a particular day must be mailed back to the subject teacher before the end of the day. We have recognised that many children had not completed any of the non-core tasks we had been sending and were being rushed to complete them all at one go. This will not aid the child in any way and there will be huge gaps in learning when they return to school next year. Children's routines must be maintained as far as possible and we have done our best to streamline the work so that it is balanced but it cannot be left out at all as was the case with many children.

REMINDER: FINAL ASSESSMENTS AND ASSESSED ASSIGNMENTS FOR FINAL REPORTS:

You have received an Assessment Schedule for June 2020. We will be having simple online assessments through Google Forms for Years 1-4 in English, Math, Science, Arabic and Social Studies. For the other subjects we will be sending simple assignments for your child to do as an application of concepts and skills covered over the past weeks of our Distance Learning. Assignments will be sent at the beginning of the week so you can go through the requirements and explain the same to your child. However we expect that assignment to be done on the morning of the scheduled day. **ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE SENT BACK TO THE SUBJECT TEACHER VIA EMAIL BEFORE THE END OF THE SCHEDULED DAY. WE WILL NOT MARK OR CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS THAT ARE SENT AFTER THE DAY.**

As **PSHE Assessed Assignment is due on 2nd June, Tuesday**, and the **HISTORY Assessed Assignment is due on 3rd June, Wednesday**---the **ASSIGNMENT** your child has to complete and submit for these subjects will be sent to you on **Sunday, 31 May**. **Your child is expected to have the PSHE assignment completed and ready for submission on TUESDAY, 2nd June and the HISTORY assignment on Wednesday, 3rd June, without fail.** Please take a picture and email the work done to the subject teacher before the end of that day. Email Subject must read as: (example) **PSHE ASSIGNMENT FOR JOHN SMITH YEAR 2A**. Please also name the assignment with the same name.

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE PRESENT FOR THE ONLINE LIVE ASSESSMENT SCHEDULED FOR THAT EVENING.

Academic honesty is a fundamental part of learning and teaching and a core value of Saint Mary's Catholic High School Dubai. While we understand that

children are in your physical space during these assessments we also know and trust that parents are the first teachers of values to their children. We therefore request you to only facilitate or help with the technological aspect of the assessment administration but to refrain from assisting in any way with the content of the assessment. We know that above all else both parents and teachers want the values of honesty and integrity to be deeply embedded in the children as key drivers for their journey through life. Children watch us very closely and look up to us as role models and we want them to know that they can continue to maintain these values even when they are doing an assessment at home.

We have included all the information you need regarding the Assessments including the topics to be reviewed in one easy to read sheet. **PLEASE NOTE THAT WHEN A LIVE ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED, THERE WILL BE NO OTHER LIVE SESSION THAT EVENING EVEN IF FEATURED ON THE SCHEDULE.**

THE FIRST TERM AVERAGE AND THE THIRD REPORT ALONG WITH THESE JUNE ASSESSMENTS AND ASSESSED ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE USED TO GENERATE THE FINAL REPORT and PROMOTIONS.

TRANSFER CERTIFICATES AND MEDICAL RECORDS:

A reminder to parents who are planning to transfer out of the UAE or transfer from our school to another to kindly send an official email requesting a TC and the child's medical records to maryscol@emirates.net.ae. Please address this email to Ms. Shirley (the Principal's secretary).

DL SECTION ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE:

We would like to remind ALL parents to kindly visit the DL section on our school website as we have been updating it with many useful links , documents, vital information for keeping your children safe online, tips on well-being and mindfulness to name a few. We are sure that you will find these useful and we will keep updating this section as often as we can.

ATTENDANCE IN LIVE SESSIONS:

While the majority of children have been keeping up an excellent rate of attendance, we would like to encourage parents of those children who have not been regular to please make sure that your children are attending the live sessions and participating in them. This will help in a big way to mitigate potential gaps in learning that will be hard to overcome with irregularity at this stage.

We wish all parents and your families continued safety and good health. We pray that you will surmount all the challenges that these days have thrown up.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)

