

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

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OUR REF :

TRN : 100483609200003

DATE : Wednesday, 25TH November 2020

To: The Parents of students in Years 1-3 - DISTANCE and BLENDED LEARNING UPDATE

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. Please read through these important updates for week fourteen. We pray that all of you and your children are safe and well.

49th NATIONAL DAY & COMMEMORATION DAY HOLIDAYS :

The school will be closed for the National Day Holidays from **Tuesday, 1st December until Saturday, 5th December 2020 and we return to lessons on Sunday, 6th December 2020.** The school office will also be closed on all these days. We wish all the families of the school community a happy National Day break with the school community offering prayers and best wishes for this great nation and its rulers. ***In keeping with the colourful traditions, we are inviting all our students to dress in any of the colours of the UAE National Flag or a combination of all (red, white, green and black) on MONDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER 2020. Children will have a special National Day session on Monday evening with their class teacher. There will be no homework assigned for this break and we truly hope that you'll can spend some quality family time together.***

FIRST REPORT DAY, SATURDAY, 28TH NOVEMBER 2020:

Kindly refer to the circular sent about report day. Please note that some parent meetings will be conducted on Friday as many of our teachers have their Licensing exams from the Ministry of Education scheduled for Saturday. Those teachers will have contacted you by now to inform you of this change of plan.

While we are truly grateful to all our parents who have completed their payment of the first term fees, we have deeply reflected on the challenges that the Covid-19 Global Pandemic has brought to families, and in a spirit of goodwill which lies at the heart of our school, we have decided to release the report cards of all our students including those who still have outstanding dues for the first term.

However we would like to remind all parents that for St. Mary's to sustain itself and continue to provide an education to all our children, it is imperative that school fees are paid in a timely manner and therefore we will not be in a position to release subsequent report cards if there are outstanding dues for the first term. We would appreciate your support for the school by clearing ALL OUTSTANDING DUES before the end of 2020. Reports will be published starting tonight and so we request you to check your SIMS PARENT APP after approximately twenty four hours for your child's report.

MORNING LEARNING TASKS:

There will be no Morning Learning tasks for the remaining school days of 2020 and we will resume these in January 2021.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM:

Your child should have already joined his/her respective Google Classroom by now. Please note that all Morning Learning tasks shall be posted in Google Classroom. Subject teachers will also use Google Classroom to post teaching and learning materials and those assignments that require submission. You will still receive via the Group email the daily Zoom links and the subjects with Morning Learning. Please be reminded that the school email remains the official platform for communicating any relevant concerns or queries to any teacher.

COMPETITION AND PROGRAMME PARTICIPATION UNDER DL SECTION OF OUR WEBSITE:

We would like to invite you to please check this new section we have added for many interesting programmes and competitions that the children can participate in.

REFUND FOR ARABIC/ ISLAMIC STUDIES/ MORAL EDUCATION BOOKS AND COLLECTION OF SOCIAL STUDIES TEXT BOOKS **UPDATED LINK:**

We have uploaded a refreshed link on the school website for the purpose of booking an appointment with Iris International for refunds.

SCHEDULED PLANS FOR NEXT WEEK:

We will be sending you'll the scheduled plans for SUNDAY and MONDAY with this update.

FIRST TERM FEES:

A reminder to all parents that the last date for the payment of the First Term Fees has now passed. **Your collaboration in settling your child's first term fees immediately is the need of the hour.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM KHDA -TRAVEL REGULATIONS AND TRAVEL DECLARATION :

A reminder to all parents to check the school website for this important update from KHDA as regards student travel and the required travel declaration form that needs to be filled.

UPDATED PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION TO SCHOOL & CLASS TEACHERS:

We have uploaded a link on the school website for you to access and provide us the critical information required without delay. **We are still waiting for a few more parents to fill in this information. THIS IS MOST URGENT!!**

ZOOM GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS AND PRACTICE OF KEY CONTENT IN CORE SUBJECTS:

WE WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE THAT THE LEARNING SESSIONS IS STRICTLY BETWEEN THE TEACHER AND THE STUDENTS. All previous guidelines have been made available in our PROCESS MAP and we urge you to go through those carefully. We thank you once again for your collaboration with the teachers in supporting your children through lessons. **It is a huge breach of PRIVACY under UAE law to record any live sessions without the permission of all those in a session.** Unfortunately it has been observed that some parents have been doing this. This is in complete violation of both UAE privacy laws as well as laws concerning Child Safeguarding and Protection and must not ever be done in future. The school will be compelled to report any future actions regarding violation of the same to the relevant authorities. Let us all remember to be respectful to one another as this is a key value to teach our children.

WEEKLY LESSON PLANS:

Since there are only two working days we will not upload lesson plans for Sunday and Monday.

ATTENDANCE FOR LIVE SESSIONS:

Your child's attendance is marked for each Zoom Session. In case your child has missed a session, you need to email the class teacher and inform him/her regarding the reason for the absence. If this is not done the absence will be marked as an 'unjustified absence' and will be reflected in your child's report card against that particular subject.

ACTIVE LEARN/ ACTIVE TEACH:

The Login credentials for your child's Active Learn have been sent to your child's unique school email ID. In case payment for Active Learn has not yet been made, kindly contact Iris International immediately to have this done so that you can receive the login credentials for Active Learn for your child. In the event that you have paid for this but have still not yet received the login credentials, kindly send an email to the class teacher with your child's full name . Teachers will be using the Active Learn platform for lessons, assessments as well as allocating homework tasks and books for reading. Please do not delay in making the payment for Active Learn so that children can access the platform for their lessons.

DL SECTION ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE:

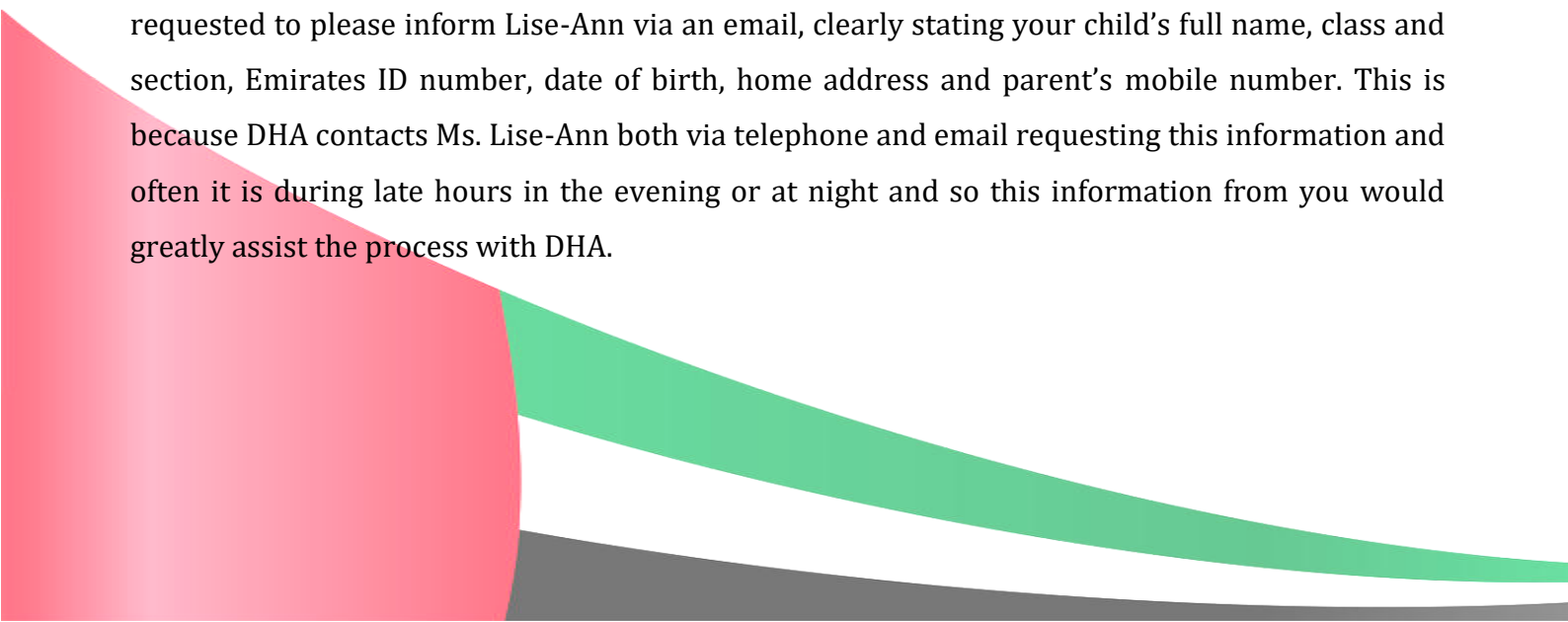
We would like to remind ALL parents to kindly visit the DL section on our school website as we have been updating it with many useful links , documents, vital information for keeping your children safe online, tips on well-being and mindfulness to name a few. We are sure that you will find these useful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

EXPO 2020 SECTION ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE:

We would like to invite you and your children to browse this section regularly as we will keep updating it with interesting and relevant resources for the children.

DISTANCE LEARNING CRITICAL AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE REQUIRED:

Even if a child who has opted for Distance Learning has tested positive for Covid-19, parents are requested to please inform Lise-Ann via an email, clearly stating your child's full name, class and section, Emirates ID number, date of birth, home address and parent's mobile number. This is because DHA contacts Ms. Lise-Ann both via telephone and email requesting this information and often it is during late hours in the evening or at night and so this information from you would greatly assist the process with DHA.

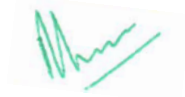


PRIVACY OF TEACHER VIDEOS :

Teachers will be uploading short video lessons for the children in English, Math, Science and Arabic as part of the morning learning tasks. We ask that you please respect the privacy of the teachers by not sharing these on social media or with parents from other schools. We are sure you as parents will understand the sensitivity of this process and we trust that you will fully respect the privacy of our teachers by not sharing these in any way.

We wish you all a safe and blessed National Day weekend with your families. Please stay safe and avoid crowded places. Please be assured of our prayers and blessings for our Marian Family

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)



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UNION

