

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

P.O. Box: 52232, DUBAI - U.A.E.

Tel. : +(971) 4 3370252

E-mail : maryscol@emirates.net.ae

Fax : +(971) 4 3368119

website : www.stmarysdubai.com



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

ص.ب. ٥٢٢٣٢، دبي - الإمارات العربية المتحدة

maryscol@emirates.net.ae : بريد إلكتروني

هاتف : ٣٣٧٠٢٥٢ : ٩٧١ +

www.stmarysdubai.com : موقع ويب

فاكس : ٣٣٦٨١١٩ : ٩٧١ +

OUR REF :

TRN: 100483609200003

DATE : Thursday, 28th January 2021

To: The Parents of students in Years 4-13 - DISTANCE and BLENDED LEARNING UPDATE

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. We continue to ask all of our Marian family to hold the school community in prayer especially for the health and safety of our children and their extended families. Please read these important updates as we move into week twenty three of this Academic Year.

TRAVEL DECLARATION: In order for the school to be compliant with the UAE Covid-19 travel requirements, please click on the official DHA link (available on website) and answer the relevant questions even if your child has not travelled. We appreciate if you are not travelling that you complete it as soon as possible. If you are travelling, please complete it prior to your child's return to lessons. The email required to be filled in the field on the form is :

traveldecl-smchs@smgeducation.org

SURVEY FOR DISTANCE OR BLENDED LEARNING FOR TERM TWO FROM 28TH

JANUARY 2021: We had sent you'll a reminder of the protocols to read through before the Winter Break. We had required every parent to fill out a form with your choice for the mode of learning for your child for the second term and you had to sign the form, scan it and email it as an attachment to your child's class teacher. ***The deadline for sending this form back to your child's class teacher was 5th January 2021 and we gave parent until the weekend of 16th January to send these in. Forms that have not been received will be considered as DISTANCE LEARNING.***

WEEKLY LESSON PLANS: Every Saturday, we will upload the lesson plans for the week so that you will know in advance of the week what your child is going to be learning in the week to come. These plans can be found under the relevant departments on the school website.

YEAR 11 AND 13 BOARD EXAMINATIONS: We would like to reassure all parents that Edexcel is working closely with the UK Department for Education and Ofqual to understand the implications of recent announcements for the General Qualifications. In turn, they will notify the school once they have concrete instructions and steps ahead and we will share further details as soon as we receive them via updates on the school website. Your patience and understanding in these very fluid times is highly appreciated.

ADMISSION FORMS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022: We would like to inform all parents that admissions to the Academic Year 2021-2022 are now open. There will be NO ADMISSIONS FOR YEAR ELEVEN. Kindly check the school website www.stmarysdubai.com for the admissions notice for further information related to admissions. **Please note that admission to years ONE and TWO are now closed.**

OUTSTANDING FIRST TERM FEES : We are at a time junction of having gone three and a half months past the last day for first term fee payments but we still have a large number of students with outstanding fees for the first term. We are urging all parents who have not yet cleared these outstanding fees from term one to do so without delay. Please note that we will not be in a position to provide examination marks, report cards, reference letters or any other official documents to students who still have outstanding first term fees.

SECOND TERM FEES & TIME FRAME FOR MAKING FEE PAYMENTS: Please note that Second term fees must be paid between the 1st and 31st of January 2021. All fees must be paid on time and via the SKIPLY APP. We are soon approaching the deadline for Second Term Fee payment and we are requesting ALL parents to respect this deadline.

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.

BLENDED LEARNING CRITICAL AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE REQUIRED: If any child who has opted for Blended Learning shows symptoms of Covid-19, they must be kept at home and a diagnosis must be sought from an approved medical practitioner. The parent must email Ms. Lise-Ann on l.pinto-smchs@smgeducation.org and inform her of the status and send a copy of a PCR test that has been conducted. In addition in case a child or a parent, sibling or any family member of a child who has opted for Blended Learning, tests POSITIVE for COVID-19, an email must be sent to Ms. Lise-Ann without delay and the child must be kept at home to self isolate for 14 days. These are critical DHA requirements and as the Health and Safety Officer of the School, Ms. Lise-Ann will then contact the parents of any other child who was in contact with the child in question as well as staff members who will also have to self isolate for 14 days as part of contact tracing requirements. ***A PCR Negative test for a child who previously tested positive is also required in addition to the 14 day isolation in order for the child to return to school.***

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.

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 parents to fill in this information. THIS IS MOST URGENT!! PLEASE DO NOT DELAY ANY FURTHER !!!**

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.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM STRICTLY FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS AND NOT A FORUM FOR COMMUNICATION BY PARENTS: We would like to remind all parents that the GOOGLE CLASSROOM is an educational space strictly for the children and their teachers. **KINDLY DO NOT POST MESSAGES TO THE TEACHERS IN STREAM.** If you wish to communicate with any teacher kindly send them an email.

SCHOOL EMAIL ID TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR SCHOOL WORK: Students **MUST NOT USE** the school email ID credentials to register on any gaming website or third party eBook websites etc. Students should be very careful when visiting any website they are unsure of as there is the potential possibility of clicking on pop ups which could lead to inadvertently sharing information from a child's device to the linked pages. If any student or parent finds any unusual activity happening with your school email ID, kindly forward the same to IT support on their email and they will look into the matter immediately.

We wish you safe days ahead with blessings of good health for one and all.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)

