



OUR REF :

TRN : 100483609200003

DATE : Thursday, 25th March 2021

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

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. We pray in a special way for those families that are facing many challenges with health and other difficulties related because of the Pandemic and we trust that peaceful healing and happier times return to one and all. We would also like to wish our children a Happy Spring Break and we hope that they will use this time wisely to both relax as well as find creative and innovative things to be engaged with. Please read these important updates as we move into week thirty one of this Academic Year.

IN MEMORIAM:

The Pandemic has severely impacted some families of our larger Marian Family and with great sadness we share with you all that we have recently lost five parents and the spouse of a staff member to this illness. We ask you all to hold these families in close prayer especially praying for strength for the families to cope with such a difficult loss.

CONDOLENCES:

Saint Mary's Catholic High school offers its heartfelt condolences and prayers on the passing of HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum. We pray that God grants eternal rest unto his soul.



SPRING BREAK AND ADMIN OFFICE WORKING DAYS :

The Spring Break for the Academic Year 2020-2021 commences on 28th March 2021 and students will return to school on Sunday, 18th April 2021. **The Admin office will be open until the 29th of March 2021 and the timings will be from 8:00 am until 12:30 pm.** Teachers and Office staff will not be available on email during the Spring Break.

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

REVISED ADMIN. OFFICE TIMINGS REMINDER:

All parents are requested to please make a careful note that after the Spring Break the School Admin Office will as usual be **closed on the First and Third Saturday of every month** and **will work from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm on the Second and Fourth Saturday of every month**. For any urgent collection of documents, the office will intimate you on a case by case basis of any other timings during the week when documents may be collected.

NEW DHA REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING COVID-19 SCHOOL CASES:

Even if a child who has opted for Distance Learning has tested positive for Covid-19, parents are requested to please access a new link provided on the school website as per new DHA requirements and fill it up without fail. The new requirements necessitate that the PCR test report is sent by parents to the school on the same day that they receive it from the lab. **THIS IS NOW MANDATORY FOR PARENTS FROM DHA. THIS IS ONLY FOR NEW COVID-19 POSITIVE CASES AND NOT THOSE WHO HAVE RECOVERED FROM COVID.**

RAMADAN TIMINGS BASED ON MAJORITY CHOICES IN PARENT SURVEY:

We asked you dear parents in our survey on Ramadan Timings to choose from between two slots and based on the slot chosen by the larger majority we can now inform you that the Ramadan Timings post-spring break will be from **3:00 to 5:30 pm**.

FINAL EXAMINATION PORTIONS and TIMETABLES :

The portions for the final examinations will be uploaded under the relevant Department categories on the school website on the 27th of March 2021. Please refer to the school calendar on the website for dates for Final Examinations. Final examination time tables will also be uploaded on the same day.

Guided Reading books assigned in Active Learn Bug Club: Two books have been assigned for children to read through this quarter and through the Spring Break and a quiz on these will be conducted immediately after the Spring Break and the marks will be integrated into the Third Report for English Reading. Reading is the most valuable skill and we would like every child to develop this skill at an early age so your support in encouraging them to read regularly with interest will be greatly appreciated. **THE READING QUIZ HAS BEEN SCHEDULED ON 18TH APRIL FROM 5:00 TO 5:30 PM.**

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 only for year 10. 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.

OUTSTANDING FEES FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR :

We are at a time junction of having gone past the last day for both first and second term fee payments but we still have a large number of students with outstanding fees. We are urging all parents who have not yet cleared these outstanding fees to do so without delay. Please note that we will not be in a position to provide examination marks, report cards, mid-term assessment scripts, reference letters or any other official documents to students who still have outstanding fees. ALL OUTSTANDING FEES MUST BE PAID WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

RETURN FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022 :

It is that time of the year when we need to request parents to start thinking about whether your child will be returning for the next Academic Year 2021-2022 and we will be providing you with a form and some additional details on the 27th of March 2021, but we would like you to begin thinking about re-registration for next year.

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.

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.

A PEACEFUL HOLY WEEK, A HAPPY EASTER AND RAMADAN KAREEM:

We would like to wish those families celebrating Easter a truly blessed and reflective Holy Week which culminates in a **Joyful Easter**. We would also like to take this opportunity to wish all the families of our school community who will be observing Ramadan –A very Holy and Fulfilling Ramadan and may the beautiful month of fasting and sacrifice fill your hearts and homes with God’s peace and special blessings. **RAMADAN KAREEM !**

We wish you safe days ahead and we pray for blessings of good health for one and all. **Please remember the three W’s**

Wash your hands!

Watch your distance!

Wear your mask!

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)



Happy Spring Break

