



OUR REF :

TRN : 104153998000003

Friday, 02 October 2026

**To: Parents of All Students - KEEPING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY
SAFE-MASKING UP AND NOT SENDING VERY SICK
CHILDREN TO SCHOOL**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's. **Keeping our children healthy, safe, and thriving in the classroom requires a collective effort from our entire school community.** As we navigate this phase of weather change, we face the predictable rise of seasonal respiratory illnesses—including colds and flu.

While we recognise the importance of regular attendance, we must also acknowledge the risks of sending a sick child to school. They are most likely to infect other children and staff and will not be able to focus on lessons. Please seek medical guidance when your child is running a temperature or has strong flu-like symptoms.

While keeping a sick child home is always the best first option, there are days when a child has minor, lingering symptoms like a mild cough or runny nose but is well enough to attend class.

In these situations, **we strongly appeal to all parents to send their children to school wearing a well-fitted mask.**

Masking when sick is a simple, highly effective act of community care that offers profound benefits for everyone in our Marian family:

- **It Protects Vulnerable Classmates and Staff:** A mask acts as a vital barrier, blocking respiratory droplets right at the source. This simple layer of fabric protects classmates with weaker immune systems, pregnant teachers, and vulnerable family members who are at higher risk for severe illness.

- **It Keeps Classrooms Open and Disruptions Low:** When viruses spread through a classroom, multiple children get sick and miss crucial school days. Widespread mask-wearing during active sickness keeps overall illness rates down, ensuring continuity in learning and daily routines.
- **It Eases the Burden on Families:** Fewer sick children mean fewer missed workdays for parents, fewer stressful scrambles for last-minute childcare, and fewer visits to the hospital or health clinic.

Taking care of one another is a lesson that extends far beyond the textbook. By masking your child when they are recovering from the flu or showing mild symptoms, you are teaching them empathy, civic responsibility, and the value of protecting their community.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership, your cooperation, and your dedication to keeping our school a safe, healthy environment for every child.

Yours sincerely,

Mr . Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)

