



7th May 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,

I know we are all somewhat on tenterhooks awaiting the announcements due over the coming days – and many of us are probably feeling a bit anxious about some of the possible outcomes.

I just have one request of you all – DON'T PANIC!

Nothing is going to change instantly for St Mary's:

- Skeleton school will remain open for the children of Keyworkers, and we will continue to support learning through Google Classroom and Class Dojo. This will be the case up to half-term regardless of any government announcements
- We will take time to digest whatever information is shared
- We will work together as a team to plan and prepare for implementation in a way that works for St Mary's
- We will keep lines of communication open
- We will support each other

It seems clear that we all need to start shifting our mind-sets away from lockdown and towards whatever the next stage will bring – but we will do this at a pace and in a manner that allows our confidence and trust that things will be fine to grow, and be strong.

It also seems clear that, whatever is announced, some people will feel it is too much too soon, and some will feel it is too little too late, and basically it won't be too hard for anyone to find something to be grumpy or anxious about! Please let's do our best not to turn that grumpiness on each other!

It comes to something when the most reliable thing in our country is the weather – but the fact is the sun is due to shine this weekend, even though it is a Bank Holiday! We also have the chance to mark the 75th Anniversary of VE Day – such an important example of how our country emerged from a challenging period, and celebrated together.

Try to breath, and stay in the moment, and trust that, whatever the route, we can walk this path together.

Best wishes

Sarah Lewis

Confidently Me Belonging Together Challenged to Contribute