

St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls

11-19 Church of England Academy Founded 1699 Service Compassion Justice Perseverance

"Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life." **Psalm 143:8**

Thursday 7 May 2020

Dear Families

I hope you are keeping well and safe in this current time.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together through the new home learning initiative. Having spoken to many of you and the girls, I know that they are missing school. They are finding some aspects of their work challenging, particularly without having the face to face interaction with their teachers and the support and friendship from their peers.

As we approach the end of the seventh week of lockdown. It is likely that we will see an easing of restrictions. We are expecting to hear this from the Prime MInister during his briefing on Sunday.

We are all keen to have the girls back in school learning, but we know that health and safety remain critical factors in allowing us to do so. There has been much speculation about schools returning in June, we hope to find out more on Sunday. However, we have begun thinking about what we need to do, once we get the go ahead to reopen. Most important is the physical safety of all staff and students and the support we will need to give to students at a pastoral level so that we can reintegrate back into our St Martin's community carefully and sensitively.

The staff have worked hard to provide lessons every day and I hope you have found the 'Home Learning' section on our website useful and enjoyed our weekly St Martin's 'Simply the Best' Home Learning Bulletin that showcases our girls learning.

We know that some of our St Martin's community have lost loved ones and are grieving, our hearts go out to you and you are in our thoughts and prayers. We have a bereavement support page on our website and we ask that you contact us if you need support and help at this time.

The 'new normal' is a term we have been hearing over the weeks. As we slowly ease out of lockdown, there is no doubt that we will need to and will want to be doing things differently. This will be new learning for all of us as we begin a new chapter post lockdown.

School will be closed tomorrow, Friday 8 May for the May Bank Holiday, moved from Monday 4 May to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. There will be televised events taking place alongside a nationwide sing-along to "We'll Meet Again" Dame Vera Lynn's iconic WW2 song. How remarkable, and still keeping well, Dame Vera celebrated her 103rd birthday on 20 March 2020. Plan your VE Day party - VE Day 75

Thank you for your continued support and we all remain hopeful that things will begin to look more positive in terms of the covid crisis and schools will be able to function at some point very soon.

Stay well and until we are officially informed, stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives.

Every blessing

Beverley Stanislaus

Headteacher

