



9th December 2020

WHOLE SCHOOL: TRAINING DAY MOVE

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to let you know at this earliest opportunity that St. Mary's will be closed for a training day on **Friday 18th December 2020**. In a press release made yesterday the schools minister suggested that this date be a training day (not extra but instead of our Friday 25th June training day).

In his press release, schools minister Nick Gibb told MPs that schools could schedule an inset day next Friday to allow "six clear days" before Christmas Eve.

He said this would ensure teachers and heads do not have to engage with "track and trace issues" throughout the break.

I have been informed that Stowe Valley MAT will also now be having a training day on that Friday so we would also have no school dinners available to us on that day.

I apologise for the late notice, but this was due to the government releasing their statement only yesterday.

We have had a good term for our children here at St. Mary's. Due to our high levels of hygiene, we have had no bubbles go down this term due to Covid. However, like all schools we have had high levels of disruption due to staff and families having to be tested and self-isolate.

I would ask that over the Christmas holiday everybody follows Covid restrictions. A letter explaining Childcare and support bubbles will be available on the school website. I ask that our whole community adhere to these rules so that we are all in school from January for a successful Spring term.

Can I take this opportunity to say that it is crucial that children are punctual, notwithstanding the staggered starts. It adversely effects all children's learning when a persistent few children are late.

Yours

Jane Price
Headteacher

