



**St Saviour's
& St Olave's
School**

An 11-18 Church of England Girls' School

HEADTEACHER: CATHERINE MAY BSC (HONS) MBA

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1st May 2020

SILVER LININGS 4

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this edition of Silver Linings finds you safe and well, and that you are coping with the ongoing challenges of staying home, working from home and supporting your daughters to learn at home. This is a new way of working for all of us and your efforts are really appreciated.

If you were able to watch the first national school assembly yesterday, I hope that you enjoyed it. The theme of 'hope' was most appropriate, and I certainly appreciated what the Archbishop of Canterbury shared with us on that theme. If you didn't see it you can still find it on the oak national academy/TES YouTube channel here, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgdhOstV6il.in> Our own Directors of Learning are also creating year group assemblies which we are intending to distribute to students fortnightly (alongside weekly notices) until we are once again able to hold assemblies in school.

In school we are working on how we can accommodate rules of social distancing around our building when we are able to welcome more students back to school. It's certainly something we are keen to do, we have missed seeing your daughters, but we must be able to do so safely. We will need to implement different routines for how students enter school, how they move around it, how many can be in a particular space at one time, to name just a few of the challenges we face. As always, I have complete faith in the St Saviour's community to rise above any challenge and thrive.

Although it is clear we will be in this learning and working from home situation for some time to come, I am glad to now be having conversations about how and when we can re-open fully. However, we must acknowledge the historic and unique nature of this time that we are going through together. Our Easter Art Attack competition, based on the Guggenheim idea, saw Y7 students recreate a work of art in their own homes, using whatever was to hand. The results are nothing short of stunning and every entry was ingenious and just as creative as the original. There are seven winners, who will each receive 150 house points. We are very lucky to have such talent here at SSSO! You can see some of the works produced on our website. This, together with the homemade palm crosses, are just a small sample of the creativity shown by staff and students, and it would be great to see more. We hope to compile an archive of the SSSO community meeting the challenges of lockdown 2020.

I was delighted to see a number of praise postcards be sent home this week from the science department. Thanks to Ms Giles for designing the card, and well done to the students for earning them. It is wonderful to see that St Saviour's students take their learning seriously wherever they are. We will be





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keeping a count of house points throughout the lockdown period and will be awarding the house cup again at the end of the term, so please remind your daughter to keep up their great work and keep earning them.

We have also now had confirmation that the students who would have been taking AS exams this year, mostly from year 12, will receive grades in the same way as GCSE and A' level students. Ms Ferguson will communicate further with the students affected about the process of grading.

If your daughter is struggling with accessing work or with completing it, please remind her to contact her subject teacher. If she needs support managing workload please suggest she could contact her form tutor, Director of Learning or a member of the pastoral team. Please also make use of the well-being resources on the school website. As I mentioned last week, one idea from our partners at PIXL is a kindness diary, and is attached to this letter. As it is quite a large file we have also made it available on the school website.

Next Friday is a bank holiday to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE day. A significant milestone in our country's history, and quite fitting that we remember one collective victory whilst engaging in another collective battle. Therefore, school will be completely closed on Friday 8th May.

I hope you all have a restful weekend, and stay safe.

With very best wishes

Catherine May
Headteacher

Prayers / Thoughts for the Day

'Once a man was asked, 'what did you gain by regularly praying to God?'. The man replied, 'Nothing. But let me tell you what I lost. Anger, greed, insecurity and fear. Sometimes, the answer to our prayers is not gaining but losing; which ultimately is the gain.' Unknown.

'And the people sat still and the earth healed and Spring came, flowers bloomed, bringing hope and beauty back into the world....' Inspirivity.

'We are not all in the same boat, but we are all in the same storm. Support each other. #Don't judge #Be Kind'





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'I am the vine: you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit'. John 15:5

'We will not go back to normal. Normal never was. Our pre-corona existence was not normal other than we normalised greed, inequity, exhaustion, depletion, extraction, disconnection, confusion, rage, hoarding, hate and lack. We should not long to return, my friends. We are being given the opportunity to stitch a new garment. One that fits all of humanity and nature.' Brene Brown.

'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing A New Thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland'. Isaiah 43:18-19

Supporting Links / Resources

Launch of BBC Bitesize

The BBC has launched an education package across TV and online, featuring celebrities and teachers, helping to keep children learning at home and supporting parents.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Guidance on helping children with special educational needs and disabilities learn at home can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-with-send-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Updated guidance for parents and carers on the closure of educational settings providing additional information on the support available for parents, online educational resources and support for vulnerable children.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Every mind matters – advice on supporting the mental health and well-being of children at this time can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/looking-after-children-and-young-people-during-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/>

