



St. Mary's

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

www.stmarysprep.co.uk

5 Pottergate, Lincoln, LN2 1PH

Headmaster: Andrew Salmond Smith, B.A. (Hons.), P.G.C.E.

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8th October 2009

Dear Parent/Carer

Information Update – Swine Flu

As you are no doubt aware the Government are predicting an increase in the number of 'Swine Flu' incidents in the coming months. It is our intention to do everything we can to remain open throughout this period. However, should our staff to pupil ratio fall to a level where the safety of pupils and the efficient delivery of effective education can no longer be guaranteed then in consultation with the Governing Body I may have to take the decision to close the school.

In the unlikely event of a school closure information will be posted on the school website along with any work for pupils. Announcements of closure will also be provided via the school's ClarionCall system.

The senior team has agreed a fully developed contingency policy which is in place for any outbreak of swine flu and we look to our families for their support.

If you believe that your son or daughter has 'Swine Flu' you should follow the national advice provided by the NHS. On their website they list the symptoms as **fever or high temperature (over 38°C/100.4°F)** and two or more of the following symptoms:

unusual tiredness, headache, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breath or cough, loss of appetite, aching muscles, diarrhoea or vomiting.

Please do not send your child to school if you suspect they have 'Swine Flu' but we do request that you keep the school fully informed. We will aim to keep in regular contact with you throughout your child's absence.

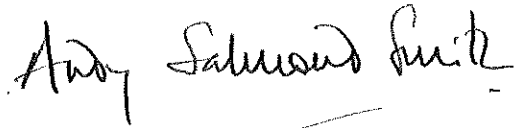
As a community there are some simple precautions that we can all take to minimize the effect of any out-break. These include:

- a) Sending your son or daughter to school with some anti-viral hand wash and tissues
- b) Covering the nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing
- c) Disposing of dirty tissues promptly and carefully
- d) Minimizing contact between hands and mouth/nose unless hands have just been washed
- e) Washing hands frequently with soap and warm water, or using an anti-viral hand rub, to reduce the spread of the virus from the hands to the face or to other people, particularly after blowing the nose or disposing of tissues

ST. MARY'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL IS AN I.A.P.S. DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED FROM 2½ TO 11 YEARS OLD.

May I thank you in advance for your co-operation and trust that through this we are able to minimize the inevitable disruption to school life.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Salmond Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Andy Salmond Smith
Headmaster