



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
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Friday October 2nd 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

The weather has certainly taken a turn for the worse and autumn has definitely arrived. We have been still trying to get the children outside whenever we can so to that end please ensure they have a waterproof, warm coat.

We have all been thinking about caring and looking after one another this week, as you are all aware we have a number of teachers, support staff and children out of school as we all do the right thing to protect each other. We are all trying our very best to make sure that all the children get the very best education we can offer and we are committed to putting the right measures into place as soon as we possibly can to facilitate that.

Rest assured we would make you immediately aware of any COVID positive situation and how it might affect you and your child. The children have all been brilliant in the way they have come back to school and adapted to the different way of working and sometimes the different staff they might have in their class.

PTFA

Thank you to the PTFA and the Butchers Block for organizing the virtual cake of the week, it was very successful this week. Congratulations to the Winward family for picking the lucky number 21. I hope we will be able to organize more virtual fund raising as we move into next term particularly with Christmas around the corner.

Start and end to the school day

The rain this week has caused havoc in the car park and what I can only describe as a very near miss with regards a child and a car. **PLEASE try and park off site if the car park is full.** Years 3 and 4 parents do not need to arrive until just before 3pm (2.45pm on Friday) to collect their children; by that time there will be some spaces as R, 1 and 2 parents will have left. We will be asking parents of YRS 3 and 4 to leave the car park if they arrive too early.



"Together we love, together we hope, together we learn."



We are still trying to ensure social distancing wherever possible; with this in mind, parents of children in Y3 and Year 4 will not be able to come onto the school playground until pickup time unless they have a sibling in YR, Y1 and Y2.

Coronavirus news

The Government have issued the latest guidelines for remote learning, should schools have to close or children are self-isolating, this is on the website under parents/COVID information. You will also find the schools procedure for parents in this section. There is a longer St Joseph's school remote learning contingency plan under information/policies/St Joseph's contingency plan for remote education.

We would also ask you to think carefully before taking your children abroad this half term. I understand that some bookings will have been made a long time ago and therefore this is an issue with regards refunds. There are so many countries on the 2 week quarantine list and Poland has just been added. If you do go to one of these countries you must all self-isolate for 2 weeks which means your child will be out of school for another 2 weeks.

Parent's evenings:

Settling in and progress during term 1: Reception-Year 6
Monday 19th/20th/21st and 22nd of October, these will be held by telephone and you will be given an hour slot for a 10 minute phone chat. We will send out this information in your child's school journal during week beginning 5th of October. You will be able to email the school office if the time is unsuitable.

Reading at home

Thank you to all of those parents and children who read 5x or more at home this week. Well done to Year 3 for coming top again this week. This is super beneficial for your child's reading development at every age. Please sign your child's school diary if they have read to you for 10 minutes at home.

School Uniform/ warm layers Reminder:

Summer uniform can be worn up to Friday 2nd October. If you are unsure of the uniform code there is a list available in the office and on the web site. Please make sure everything is named as it will go into the lost property box if it is left unnamed around the school. **Please** remember that your child needs a coat as the weather is getting cooler, a waterproof coat is essential if it is raining as we still like to get the children outside even if it's drizzling.

PE kits can be worn into school when it is your child's PE day, your class teacher will let you know when these days are. We are trying to keep the school as airy as possible to that end it is quite cold in school. Your child could wear some extra layers under their uniform to keep them warm. We are allowing them to wear coats in class so an extra warm coat would be also useful.



SAFEGUARDING

Rapid support for children and young people affected by the coronavirus crisis (Barnardos/DfE)

Barnardos has launched a new scheme to help young people affected by the coronavirus crisis. The See, Hear, Respond Partnership will quickly identify and support children, young people and families who are struggling to cope with the impacts of coronavirus. Its aim is to provide early intervention before these children reach the threshold for statutory intervention.

See, Hear, Respond does not replace your usual referral process for children who meet a statutory threshold for significant harm: such referrals must be made to your local authority safeguarding team using your usual safeguarding procedures.

Barnardos say they 'especially want to invite referrals for families who are most isolated from support due to Covid-19, including:

- Under 5s with a specific focus on under 2s
- Those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and where there are concerns about their welfare e.g. online safety
- Children and young people experiencing anxiety, stress and other mental health difficulties
- Children who may be at increased risk of abuse, neglect and exploitation inside or outside of the home
- Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee children who experience barriers to accessing services
- Young carers

You can find more information and a referral form

here: <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/see-hear-respond>

Starting school September 2021

If you have a child born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017, then now is the time to apply for a place at our school for admission from September 2021 onwards. You must complete an application form that is available from the school admissions team of North Somerset Council. www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions

If your child has been baptised and you wish to apply for our school, you must also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of 15 January 2021."

The closing date for reception applications is 23:59 on 15 January 2020. There are open afternoons when you can visit the school at 3pm on 24th September, 22nd October and the 19th of November, please contact the school office if you wish to attend. These will be socially distanced open afternoons and will take place after the children have gone home. We are asking for parents only to attend these afternoons.



Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed or you are a new Reception parent on a low income you may be entitled to free school meals you can apply on line or come into the school office and we can help.

<https://www.gov.uk> > [Childcare and parenting](#) > [Schools and education](#)

Remember although your child may be entitled to free Infant school meals you can also apply if you feel you are eligible as the school also get support for your child to help with support teaching, equipment, subsidy for trips, music lessons, after school clubs and school uniform.

Praise Assembly

Albeit with a few technical issues, we try to record the virtual praise assembly each week. The link for this is in the Google Classrooms. Please note that you can only view the video with your child's account logged into Chrome.

Google Classroom

Please check with your child and ask them to log in at least once every week for spellings and homework. All KS2 children have a learning project that is due by the end of Term 1.

Relationships and Sex Education

If you have not already looked, we are consulting on our RSE curriculum. You can find information about our new scheme "Life to the Full" on the school website in the parents' section. If you have any questions or comments, please email the school office before half term.

God Bless

Mrs Jackson and Mr Bath

