

ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher



16th October 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you had a good week amongst the very sad news of the rise in Covid cases. I hope you will join me in praying that there will soon be a time of calm.

As we begin to hear of cases of bubbles having to be closed, I felt that it was a good time to share with you our remote learning plan in much greater detail so that we are ahead of the game. The booklet has been written by myself and the senior leadership team and is attached to this letter. Please do take the time to read this through but also I need your flexibility as things may change if we feel necessary. We continually strive to give your child the very best learning opportunities. Any updates will be sent to you. The booklet will also be on the school website under the COVID-19 section.

Work will be provided on the e-schools platform under two key strands:

- Child in isolation for 1-14 days due to awaiting a test for either themselves or family member.
- Bubble closure – Work is on the e-schools platform - remote learning booklet has all details.

Preparations by the school for possible full/part closure

- The staff are fully ready for all eventualities. Every child should have their passwords and codes in their reading records in order to access remote learning.
- A work book is ready for every child to take home to complete work in. Only one book will be provided by the school.
- Teachers have collated a wealth of resources for their own homes in the case they need to teach at home to the class.

Preparations for parents for possible full/part closure

- I would ask that you ensure you have pencils and writing equipment at home for your child.
- Consider now, where in your home, your child will be able to have a calm, clear working space. (I tried to create a little classroom area in my dining room for my daughter where she kept all her school things out and set them out on the table each day.)
- Navigate e-schools and tabs so that it is familiar to you now.
- Ensure passwords all work.
- Download Zoom. This will be used for a daily register and time during maths and English sessions to ask the teacher questions.

Important points to note:

- This time, if we have time away from school for a full lockdown or bubble closure, there will be a combination of live, recorded and independent learning.
- Teachers will be available during Maths and English sessions on Zoom to be contacted for support and feedback.
- Teachers will not be available in the afternoons as they will be preparing lessons for the next day. Therefore, support to find lost passwords will be limited. Please keep a photo of your child's passwords on your phone or somewhere accessible.

Support from home

This is absolutely imperative this year more than any other to help your child progress at school. I have been informed by teachers that there are at least 5 pupils in each class who are not regularly reading at home. Your child will not make the progress that they deserve if you do not read regularly with and engage in conversations about their reading. I am attaching reading tips and questions from Ms Dimech our English lead to support you in this.

This week we had a dip in attendance at our catch-up groups in some classes. I understand fully that illness is a factor but if I feel the place is not being taken seriously, I will be giving the place to another child.

Learning across the school

My favourite part of the job! To walk around and see the wealth of excitement and learning on a day-to-day basis. This week I have seen:

- Year 1 enjoying rigorous PE sessions with our wonderful Mr Newman.
- Some pupils in Years 3 and 5 taking part in the football sessions with Mr Selley with huge enthusiasm.
- Year 3 writing non-chronological reports on the Stone Age.
- Year 6 heading off to Henley Fort and coming back with very happy faces.
- Year 2 focusing on correct letter formation and their handwriting.
- EYFS exploring different parts of nature in the playground.

I also took part in some cheerleading this week with a group of Year 5 girls, much to their amusement. It's wonderful for them to see us as 'real people'!

As the colder days are coming in now I would like to ask that you ensure your child wears a vest and always has a coat and possibly a hat. The trickier line we have to walk now is that Covid is a lot less contagious in well ventilated rooms but with windows open, people will get cold. I am trying to find a happy medium with this. It's not an easy task!

School Meals

After half term (week beginning 2/11/20) hot lunches will be available for the children. The new menu is now available to view on SCOPAY. Please choose either the main meal or vegetarian option. **The deli sandwich option will no longer be provided after half term.** If you have already pre ordered sandwiches for November, you will need to change your order.

We ask that you order meals as much in advance as possible as the catering staff need accurate numbers to order the food. If feasible we ask for meal choices to be selected **at least two weeks in advance.**

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Meals should be ordered before Friday 12 noon for the following week. If you have not ordered by this time you will have to provide a packed lunch for your child as the kitchen will not be able to accommodate extra numbers.

Please note that school lunch accounts for KS2 will need to be in credit before ordering a meal online.

Mrs Murphy thank you cards or phone calls home

I started this a few weeks ago and many children have already received one of my thank you cards or a phone call home. As I do my daily tour of the school I see so much that I wouldn't have time to write thank you cards to everyone but when I do spot special things, I feel it deserves to be celebrated. Please help me to make this really effective by making a real fuss when your child does receive a celebration phone call or letter.

The children who have received cards from me this week for focus and concentration in class are:-
Eunan – Year 3, Lili-Mae – Year 3, Samuel - Sunshine, Amelie - Rainbow and Oskar – Year 2.

I finish now by thanking you all for your support, kindness and flexibility every day. This enables us to get the main job done of teaching and helping your child to grow to their full potential. I firmly believe that a happy child learns more so I think we can thank everyone who impacts on your child both at home and school as I see daily, many happy faces.

Wishing you a lovely and safe weekend.

God Bless,



Mrs Murphy
Acting Head Teacher



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