

ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Leanne M Harris B.A. (Hons)

Headteacher



15th June 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your families continue to keep well.

We now have 5 weeks until the end of this half term and it is hard to put into words what this time has been like for everyone within our community. Feelings of uncertainty, anticipation, worry and a multitude of other emotions, I am sure. I want to remind you all though, that we are a strong Catholic community and we will get through this time however long it takes.

I try to start every new day with reflecting on the positives around me and when I do stop, I realise how many there are, like how independent the children are becoming and how more resilient we become to changes around us and adapt. When we had our staff meeting last week, I reminded the teachers that they are very skilled individuals and will adapt to the new needs of all of our pupils when we are faced with new challenges. Sometimes the thought of things can be more frightening than the reality.

I continue to thank you all for your support, understanding and flexibility in these uncertain times. I thank all the families who have children at home as I know how frustrating this is on so many levels. All I can say to you is that you are never out of our thoughts and we are all doing our very best during these times. I meet with two senior teachers weekly to discuss our home learning and any latest thinking in this area.

This afternoon I am meeting virtually with representatives from each year group and our Chair of Governors to hear your thoughts. I intend to answer as much as I can at this point with the information and guidance I have. Usually, at these meetings together we are able to discuss lots of forward planning but unfortunately, with this new 'norm', it is not possible this year. What I can say though is that constant meetings and discussions are taking place all of the time to make preparations for lots of eventualities as we try to predict different scenarios that the government might share with us. Senior staff have been taking part in online webinars about curriculum and how best to support all our children.

I meet virtually with the Xavier Heads twice a week, the Chair of Governors weekly and our CEO daily. We are in such a fortunate position with the Academy, as we have support ranging from an Educational Psychologist, human resources, teaching and learning teams and many more. I have to thank everyone for their support during this time.

There is a new video from all class teachers which will be uploaded this week along with one from me to all of the children. I ask that you please continue to show your support with the school newsletter so that we can keep connected as a community.

This afternoon, Mrs Lewthwaite's son is coming in to film myself, Miss Gullick and Mrs Lewthwaite for the new families and children due to join us in the next academic year. As I am sure you can appreciate, this must be a worrying time for these families too so we thought a video of what the school and classrooms look like, might ease any worries and help support them.

The Xavier Trust, are in discussions about Year 6 and what we can do to support transition for these children. I will be in touch once these decisions have been made.

Please remember to check the St Anne's website under COV-19 for all the latest information and any queries you may have.

I would like to thank all the staff once more for their dedication to the children and one another. They are wonderful individuals whose skills, collectively bring together, a great team for our community.

Finally, I ask that you pray for Mrs Hurrell and her family at this time as her husband Andy is critically ill with heart problems. This is going to be a long road for them as a family and I ask that you keep them in your thoughts.

I will be in touch again with you all when there are any new developments.

God Bless,



Mrs Murphy
Acting Head Teacher

