

ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher



5th March 2021

Dear Parents,

Finally the day is nearly here - three more sleeps and the children will be back to school. I have seen some funny memes about what parents will be up to once drop off has commenced but one thing you should all definitely do is give yourselves a huge pat on the back. I also appreciate that there will be some parents who will miss having their children at home but I can assure you, school at present, will do them the world of good. It will take some adjustment for some children but the majority will hopefully slip right back in.

Pupil Questionnaire

It has been great to read all the positive comments on the children's questionnaires and hear how much most are looking forward to returning to school. We have had 217 responses and 75% have felt their learning has been good or better this lockdown (15% felt average) which is great news. Thank you for encouraging the children to complete this as it is a great resource for the teachers to have so they can gauge who may need that extra bit of support.

Parent evenings

Equally, thank you for those parents who attended their parents evening. There was lots of positive feedback and it gave parents the opportunity to share any concerns but also some great successes.

Preparation for Monday

With Monday in mind, I think it is important for me to make some suggestions for the best way to prepare the children over the weekend:

1. Ensure they get enough rest as it will be a long week for them.
2. Ensure their uniform, equipment and bags are already to go before Monday morning.
3. Talk about being back at school in a positive way.
4. Praise them for all their hard work and effort during this unprecedented time.
5. Have another look over the procedures for Monday (this was sent out earlier in the week but can be found on the Covid tab on the website) and maybe share some key elements with the children, e.g. the need to wash their hands regularly, social distancing where possible and which gate they will leave from at the end of the day.

Well-being

Dr Alison D'Amario (Xavier Educational and Child Psychologist) has put together a parent webinar on 'Supporting your child's emotional well-being during the return to school. Please click the link below or visit the Well-being section on our website under 'School Information':

[Supporting your child's emotional well-being during the return to school following COVID-19 - YouTube](#)

There are also other helpful resources that can be found in this section on our website under 'School Information'.

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Return of books and IT equipment

The exercise books and work completed in lockdown does not have to be brought back into school because teachers will have seen all the relevant pieces on Seesaw. Please keep them at home in case a bubble bursts and remote learning has to resume.

Any reading books including class texts must be brought back into school on Monday.

If you have borrowed any IT equipment this needs to be returned to the Office next week in the original packaging and condition with contents complete. Please see below a proposed timetable, to avoid a sudden rush on Monday morning, but if it does not suit the office is open from 8:45am – 4:00pm every day.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Reception / Y1 | Y2 | Y3 /4 | Y5 | Y6 |

Reading books

We have been having a sort through our reading books during the most recent lockdown and this is not yet complete so please bear with us if your child does not initially receive a reading book for home. More information on our drive on reading will come out early next week.

Family lateral flow kits

Earlier this week the government announced that family members who are not being tested at home or in school can get their own lateral flow kits from local establishments. Please see the link below for more details:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

One last thing to note is that we will no longer be finishing at lunchtimes on Friday. The week and timings will be back to normal except for the staggered starts and ends of the day.

Mrs Murphy, the staff and myself can't wait to see all the children on Monday. Have a lovely weekend and see you then.

Take care and God bless.

L Harris

MRS L M HARRIS
HEAD TEACHER



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