



'Working together to succeed, through faith in Jesus Christ'

Weekly Newsletter: Friday 5th February 2021

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School News...

'Zoom' Class Catch Ups

Our Zoom catch ups for our home learners will continue next week at the beginning and the end of the week, see times below, and we expect to see all of our home learners at the sessions. Reminders and links will be emailed out and sent out on Tapestry and Seesaw, too. We will also send a reminder text on the day of the Zooms to remind parents/carers. Thank you!

| | Class Catch Up 1 | | Class Catch Up 2 | |
|-----------|------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| Reception | Monday | 11.00am | Friday | 11.00am |
| Year 1 | Monday | 1.10pm | Friday | 1.40pm |
| Year 2 | Monday | 2.00pm | Thursday | 1.00pm |
| Year 3 | Monday | 9.10am | Friday | 1.10pm |
| Year 4 | Monday | 11.50am | Friday | 11.50am |
| Year 5 | Monday | 1.50pm | Friday | 2.00pm |
| Year 6 | Monday | 12.00pm | Thursday | 12.00pm |

Paper Resource Packs

Weekly packs can be collected from the school office from 10.30am – 2pm on Mondays each week. We now ask that any pupils working through packs must aim to take a photograph of their work at home and upload it to Seesaw so that your class teacher can see and check your work on a daily basis. Photographs can be taken and uploaded on to Seesaw via the app using your mobile phone if it makes it easier for families. This way your child's online journal provides evidence of home learning during lockdown and it means packs will no longer need to be returned to school each week. Thank you for your support with this matter.

St. Joseph's Family Centre

St. Joseph's Family Centre are able to provide support for families who are struggling financially and offer food parcels to help out at these difficult times. If you feel that your family, or you know of a family within our school community, who would benefit from a food parcel then please contact either Mr Hatton or Mrs Georgiou at contactststephens@gmail.com. All requests will be handled in a sensitive and confidential manner.

FSM Vouchers

If you are in receipt of Free School Meals, a £15 voucher will be emailed out to you on Monday and families can choose from a selection of supermarkets to redeem their vouchers in. Please note that after next week, the next set out FSM vouchers will be emailed out on Monday 22nd February after the half term break.

Building Work

Thank you to our families and pupils for your support this week whilst the main entrances to school were closed. It enabled the necessary work to be completed and we look forward to the works being completed by the end of next week – fingers crossed!

February Half Term Holiday

School closes for the half term break for all pupils next Friday 12th February and we reopen on Monday 22nd February at 8.45am for vulnerable and key worker pupils who have an allocated place in school. Remote learning will begin on this day for our home learners too.

Safer Internet Day

Next Tuesday is Safer Internet Day and this year's theme is **'An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world'**. Pupils at home and in school will be provided with activities, quizzes, video clips to watch to help reinforce and explain the need to stay safe online. We will also be providing tips and ideas to help our parents and carers support their children at home in staying safe online. We have a range of resources already available to our families on our school website under the Safeguarding tab or click the link below: https://st-stephens-catholic.eschools.co.uk/website/online_safety_advice_for_parents/419641

Special Delivery...

If you are a home learner, please keep an eye out for a special delivery through your letterbox early next week. Pupils in our key worker and vulnerable pupil provisions will be bringing home a treat to!



Reminders...

Remote Learners at Home

Pupils working at home must complete the set tasks on Tapestry (Reception) and Seesaw (Years 1-6) each day. This lockdown is different to the last one – learning is taking place and it is a legal requirement for school to set work each day and pupils to complete it. Work will be posted and ready online by 9am from Monday to Friday. Please complete all tasks set by staff not just one or two!

Please be assured that the work that is set for learners at home will be the exact same work that the pupils in the key worker and vulnerable provision will be set. Also, due to the high numbers of pupils in school this time, class staff will check the learning platforms throughout the day but will not be able to answer all communications straight away as they have to provide support and supervision in school.

School staff will be checking online engagement by lunchtime each day and will contact pupils/families if they need support or help to access the set learning.

If a child is unwell then we ask that families contact school via Parentapp, the school office or the Gmail account to explain that they are unable to take part in learning that day. This will then be recorded in school.

Further links and activities can be found on our school website under the 'Home Learning' tab to help keep your child occupied at home.

I would like to point out that we are aware that some families are working at home throughout the day and unable to complete the learning tasks until later on that day. That is absolutely fine. Staff complete their working day at 3pm so if they do not respond to your emails/communications immediately, it will be dealt with from 8.30am the following morning. Please remember that staff are providing daily blended learning (remote and in school) and need time to plan for the next day, rest and switch off in the evenings especially given the position that we find ourselves in!

Key Worker & Vulnerable Pupil Provision Learners

Pupils should only come to school as long as they are well and not displaying any COVID-19 symptoms.

School gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am. Please form a socially distanced line along the perimeter fence along Sandy Lane. Do not congregate at the gate. Once Mr Hatton has registered your child as they enter the playground, adults must leave straight away. School staff are positioned safely on the playground to welcome the children into school each day.

Pupils must wear full school uniform to school each day but may wear a hoodie/fleece over their uniform particularly during the cold weather we are experiencing as classroom windows must remain open as per our risk assessment.

Next week we will be following Week 3 on the School Meals Menu. Snack will be available to buy for KS2 pupils at break.

Our Sports Coaches will continue to work in school during lockdown in the ventilated space of our Hall or outdoors weather permitting. Pupils will need to wear PE kit on the following days:

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Friday |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Reception Year 3 | Year 5 Year 6 | Year 1 Year 4 | Year 2 Year 4 |

Please remember when collecting your child/ren at the end of the day, to form a socially distanced queue along the Sandy Lane perimeter fence. Adults must wear a face covering whilst on the school premises and collect their children promptly. Gates will close at 3pm. All staff will have left the building by 3.15pm.

School Website: Home Learning Tab

We have lots of information and guidance on our school website to help families and children at home. Click on the HOME LEARNING tab on the front page of the website. You can find links to activities for different subjects should you wish to use them as part of home learning or activities to keep the children occupied for short periods of time. These links will be added to and updated on a regular basis. Also under this tab, you will find a copy of our updated risk assessment, internet safety guidance and activities as well as copies of our remote learning policies and plans.

