



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Thursday 18th June 2020

Dear Parents,

As we find ourselves in week 3 of term 6, It is time to reflect on the journey we have all been through since the start of partial closure at the end of March. As a community we have come together, if not in person, definitely in our hearts. The school 'bubbles' Reception, Year 1, Year 6 and Key Workers are working smoothly and the home learning continues. The home learning links are also found on our school website in the Coronavirus tab, under 'Parents'. In the coronavirus tab there is a wealth of information which we hope helps whether you are at home or school.

As we start to look forward to planning for September, I am still yet to have any guidance from the DfE or Government, however, I do need to continue to plan for the overall organisation of the school.

With this in mind the classes and teachers from September will be;

- St Anthony – Reception / Year 1 - Mrs B Just
- St Aldhelms – Year 1 / Year 2 - Mrs D Cambray-Smith and Mrs E Green
- St Lawrence – Year 3/4 - Miss R Soper
- St Frances – Year 4/5 – Mrs Butt
- St Scholastica – Year 5/6 – Mr J Dawson

From Monday 22nd June we will be hearing KS1 readers in school. We have purchased a transparent screen which will allow the child and adult to sit safely on either side, whilst reading a book. Children will read the book in school and then the books will be sent home. **Please do not bring the book back to school in a book bag**, we will have a 'book returns' box in the garage which will be dated and left for 72 hours before a member of staff will sort and replenish the book shelves.

A few days ago the government announced that they would not expect primary schools to reopen for all year groups for one month before the end of term. Instead, where schools had space after providing for the year groups already attending, they could have flexibility to welcome other year groups in before the end of term.

The guidance has widened the opportunity for primary schools to welcome additional pupils back into school where they have capacity and whilst still following the protective measures guidance

and their own risk assessments. This could be through a one off face to face meeting such as the zoom sessions or something more regular.

We know many of you will have questions around this latest announcement so I wanted to reassure you that we are carefully considering what is possible for our school.

The most important aspect is to maintain the safety measures we have already put in place and to prioritise those who are vulnerable, children of key workers, and the year groups the government has already agreed should attend - reception, year 1 and year 6.

At present we feel that we are already providing the face to face contact through the zoom opportunities, as we have done throughout partial closure. This precious social interaction will continue on Wednesday afternoons with your class teachers.

If we can provide any additional provision please be assured that we will come back as soon as possible and update you on what the whole school will look like and how it will work. Until then please don't contact the school on these points as we will not be able to provide any further detail other than as stated is in this letter for the moment.

Thank you again to all of you for your patience and resilience in these unusual times. We value your support and continued positive comments and blessings.

Stay safe and God bless
Mrs Sue Woods
Head Teacher