



NEWSLETTER

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Thursday 21st January 2021



It has been lovely to hear from the teachers this week, working both in school and remotely, how well the children are doing and of all the positive, kind messages the teachers have received.

The levels of engagement have been very high, with children responding to our blended offer of both Independent and face to face sessions.

I am so very proud of the children with all their efforts and learning!

WELL DONE St Joseph's.



Please note the Staff Development day scheduled for Friday 12th February will be rescheduled. Learning will go ahead on 12th February as usual.

A few words from the chair of governors

In my country of origin, the tradition is that you can offer your new year's wishes until the end of January ... That makes me feel better for doing it 3 weeks after 2021 started ! Time flies too fast !

So 2020 is behind us now. We are opening a new 2021 chapter, still facing a challenging situation for all of us. I wish you all and your family to manage this new environment we are in in the most peaceful way possible. May you all get many blessings in 2021 and I wish you every success in your professional and personal lives.

My thoughts are going in particular to the Saint Joseph's staff who were so prompt to adapt to the new lockdown rules. Not only the school organised to remain open for key workers overnight after the government's announcement, but the staff have also been able to put in place a varied remote learning program in virtually no time. I am particularly impressed and proud to see that live lessons and recorded sessions are now offered by Saint Joseph's, on top of material being made available online. To me, the ability for children to still "see" their teacher delivering a lesson is key for their well being and their ability to learn. Of course, the school is still adapting and learning, and I am confident that staff will keep giving their utmost for the children.

My thoughts are also going to the parents, many of them having to juggle professional duties with home schooling now. From talking to my colleagues at work who face similar situation, I appreciate how complex this may be. From talking to Sue, I understand that many parents are taking remote learning very seriously and are seeking guidance/support from the school to get the best for their children. It is fantastic to see that parents are willing to play their parts in this situation. I would really encourage open and honest conversations with the teachers if you have questions about how best to support your children. Equally, if you are impressed by what the staff are doing, please say ! There is nothing better than positive and constructive feedback to enthuse and motivate us to go the extra mile for the education of children.

I can't write these 2021 wishes without a few words for key workers, keeping our economy and NHS going in difficult times. We are lucky enough to be in a region where Covid is still reasonably contained but I have no doubt it is still a strain on you. From the bottom of my heart, thank you !

Finally, children, the school would not exist without you ! I am so much looking forward to coming back to school and seeing the classes being filled with many of you ! I wish you remain a beacon of joy in our lives by just being yourselves, bringing a reassuring view of the world that we, adults, tend to not see any more with adulthood. Keep making your parents and teachers proud !

I wish you all the best for 2021.

Regards,

Gregory – Chair of governors

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS, LOVING AND SERVING TOGETHER

Weekly Message from Pope Francis



'Dear Brothers and Sisters. Be an active presence in the community.'

Please take a moment to follow the Wednesday Word link below...

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/new-start?pid=MTA101634&v=14.5>

Home learning can be found on the school website.
>Parents > Corona Virus > Home Learning



Make a difference in your community

Photo Credit: drawingrooms@icloud.com

COMMUNITY FIRST



VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED!

YOUR
MILEAGE
PAID

Your local Link Scheme needs you:

Demand for our service is growing and we **urgently need new volunteers** to support the service

If you could spare some time, or for more information
please contact us: 01380 722 241

Email: linkproject@communityfirst.org.uk