Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mrs N Oddie BA(Hons) NPQH



3rd April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Easter best wishes and home learning update

It doesn't seem like two weeks ago we closed our doors to the majority of pupils at school. However, two weeks it is and as we come to the end of a very strange term, I am writing to update you on some aspects of school life, such as it is at the moment.

I very much hope you are all well and healthy and managing to stay safe. I explained to pupils before closure how important it was to keep mentally and physically active – I trust they are doing this. Over the next two weeks we will not be setting work or checking responses on INSIGHT. Pupils and staff need a break. We will start again on Monday 20 April. We have, however, set up fun activities and challenges pupils can engage with if they want to. If pupils want to do something a little bit different, then visit INSIGHT for more information. Again, if pupils want to send in any images or comments about the fun things they are doing then contact Mrs Dudaniec on <u>dudanciecl@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk</u> so she can share videos to keep our spirits high.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you, pupils and parents, for accessing and doing work set; I'm delighted to see how many of you are doing that. I also want to thank our staff who have been busy producing work and keeping in contact with pupils; they are going well beyond what the government has asked them to do.

I hope you are following us on Twitter (@Brownedgestmary) and on our school website <u>www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk</u> where we are striving to keep you up to date with the latest news from the government relating to schools, useful links to help you, and share some of the brilliant work that our pupils are sending in. I have also sent out a copy of our Easter Shining Lights Newsletter. I know you will all agree that what you read is a true testimony to the hard work and effort pupils and staff put into making our school such the fantastic community it is. Even with two weeks of missing activities, due to closure, there is still 12 pages of events and information about how we grow, lead and serve others.

Next week, we will update the school website to include information about online Easter services so that your families can join with Catholics around the world to celebrate this most important period in the Church's calendar. We will also be in a position to update you on how GCSE grades will be awarded, once we get full confirmation from the DfE. Our teachers are already putting evidence together to justify the grades we will submit. We are doing everything we can to make sure our pupils get what they deserve.

School will remain open next week to the small number of pupils regularly attending. If you need to contact school for any reason, please continue to do so, either via <u>info@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk</u> or by telephone. We know this may be a difficult time for many and if during this time you experience financial hardship, please visit <u>www.citizensadvice.org.uk</u>, which has some useful information and guidance. If you need further assistance in terms of accessing our food bank, please contact school and we will try our upmost to help.

As ever, I would urge all our pupils to find opportunities to do good; to make the world a little better in whatever small way we can, whilst staying safe. Enjoy the Easter break as much as you can and I look forward to seeing you all, safe and well, in the very near future. On behalf of myself and staff, Happy Easter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Nicola Oddie Headteacher

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