### SS John & Monica Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you and your families are all keeping well.

#### Re-Opening Reception, Y1, Y6 and Critical Worker Children

Our returning children continue to settle very well into school, even though circumstances are different. Next week, we will see the return of more Critical Worker children and Vulnerable family children. It looks very likely that after next week our classrooms will be at full capacity, unless the government's 2-metre distance rule changes.

#### **New Reception Class Induction**

This will be a very unusual transition year for children joining our Year R class in September 2020. Clearly we will not be able to hold our normal induction meetings and time in the children's new class. You should have by now received an information pack. Please complete the relevant forms and return to school in the stamped address envelope by the deadline Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. As soon as we have more guidance regarding how school will look in September, a letter will follow with information about proposed Induction morning, parent's meeting with the class teacher and start dates. The Clive Mark 15% off voucher was in your welcome packs. Please do not feel obliged to buy any uniform items from Clive Mark as Asda, Tesco and Sainsbury's do good quality and reasonably priced items from our uniform list.

#### Y6 Transition to Secondary School

Due to current restrictions Y6 transition will be very different this year. To help ease this transition, Bishop Challoner, our secondary feeder school, are offering the following to help ease the transition from Y6-Y7. Visit the following link to access this information: https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/preparation-for/preparation-y6-for-y7

- a virtual tour of the school by myself Head of Year 7
- a letter to Year 6 parents
- a welcome pack for Year 6 pupils
- an activity for Year 6 pupils to complete entitled 'My Hopes and Dreams for Bishop Challoner
- some subject specific transition work

We advise you to visit the website of the secondary school your child will be attending. Many secondary schools already have information about Y6 transition and even virtual tours of the school to share with your child.

#### **Catholic News**

- The month of June is dedicated to The Sacred Heart. The devotion to the Sacred Heart is a form of devotion to the person Jesus, and especially his love.
- Day for Life: This day of prayer is on Sunday 21 June. His Holiness, Pope Francis, has given this day an Apostolic Blessing <a href="http://www.cbcew.org.uk/papal-message-day-for-life-2020/">www.cbcew.org.uk/papal-message-day-for-life-2020/</a>
- The God Who Speaks: the website has been updated: www.godwhospeaks.uk/ Please note that this initiative will be continuing to the end of this Liturgical year and throughout the next one too. If you wish to receive the newsletters please follow this link <a href="https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/scripture-newsletter-sign-up/">https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/scripture-newsletter-sign-up/</a>
- Please follow the link for the Wednesday Word: http://www.wednesdayword.org/home/index.htm

#### Virtual Library Service

Visit <u>https://birmingham.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/HOME</u> for information regarding Birmingham City Council virtual library service.

#### Covid-19 Guidance

The government's guidance on symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) which are follows:

a new continuous cough

a high temperature

a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If anyone has any of the symptoms above, they should <u>self-isolate at home</u>. The government has also announced that anyone with symptoms of coronavirus is now eligible to book a test, ahead of the rollout of the test and trace service. A coronavirus test can be booked here: <u>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/</u>

#### **Twitter**

Thank you to all the parents/cares who continue to send pictures of children doing a wide variety of exciting activities. It is lovely to see how everyone is working hard and keeping busy!

We continue to pray for the safety and health of everyone in our school community.

God Bless,

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Mrs. M. Elliott Head Teacher



If a child is in immediate danger of significant harm a call should be made to CASS on 0121 303 1888. If you encounter a dangerous or unsafe situation, please contact the police.

'At SS John and Monica's, we learn through the example of Jesus to love, respect, understand and value each other'



# **Sara's Super Saturday**

On Sunday 31st May, we celebrated Pentecost – when the disciples received the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is sometimes called a 'helper', and in the assembly for the w/c June 1st, children watched a video about a girl who received help. Here is a version of that story, called 'Sara's Super Saturday':

'It started when Grandad woke up from his morning nap. "Do you know what time it is, Sara?" he mumbled, still half asleep.

I said, "I don't know how to tell the time, I just get confused..."

Grandad woke up properly then, lifted me up, sat me on his lap and explained all about the big hand and the little hand and the tick tock second hand that goes round and round. It had never made sense before, but Grandad was so kind and welcoming, he made it seem easy!

Grandad asked again, "Do you know what time it is, Sara?"

I looked at his watch, at the big hand and the little hand and said proudly, "It's 11 o'clock!"

"Or as I like to call it, biscuit time!" said Grandad.

Then later on, Mum was putting on her trainers to go out to walk the dog and I asked if I could come too. Mum said, "Of course, put your new trainers on then!"

I said, "Mum, I really like my new trainers, but the laces are all fiddly. I miss my old Velcro trainers. They were easy to put on."

So, Mum sat next to me on the doorstep. She'd been busy, but suddenly she was really calm and peaceful, and patiently showed me how to thread one lace over the other, make a loop and pull it through!

Then later on I was outside when I fell off my bike and knocked into Ted, my older brother. "Owwww! Sorry Ted, I didn't mean to bump you! I'm rubbish at riding my bike now Dad's taken the stabilisers off."

Ted can be grumpy sometimes, but he was really kind and picked me up off the floor. "You're not rubbish," he said, "it just takes practice! When I was your age, it took me ages to learn to ride my bike without stabilisers. Do you want me to help you?"

So, Ted held the back of my bike whilst I pedalled. It was really tricky keeping my balance, but Ted kept encouraging me to keep going, and never minded if I bumped into him or fell off! Eventually I managed to ride the whole driveway without falling off!

What a day! I'm going to remember it as 'Sara's Super Saturday'!

## "Receive the Holy Spirit"

#### John 20:19-23

Sara couldn't tell the time, tie her shoelaces or ride her bike without stabilisers, but with help she learned how to be like others and do the things they do – just like the Holy Spirit helps us to be like Jesus and do the things He does! Children learned that like the way Sara's family helped her, the Holy Spirit is welcoming, peaceful, forgiving, encouraging, loving and kind: whenever we demonstrate those qualities, we can be sure the Holy Spirit is working in us.

#### Prayer

Dear Holy Spirit,

I welcome you into my heart. Help me learn from you and become more like Jesus.

Amen

Ten Ten Resources is an online resource for Catholic schools and parishes throughout the UK. It is part of Ten Ten, a charitable organisation dedicated to bringing matters of faith to a wider public sphere by inspiring audiences to examine aspects of spirilually and life through drama and storytelling. To sign up for Ten Ten's First Monday email to parents, please go to www.tententheater.co.uk/parents @ Ten Ten Resources 2020



