



# St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter 4th September 2020

This month's Value is '**Manners**'

Please can you re-enforce this with the children at home throughout September

### Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

It is amazing to see all the children and staff back in school full time. What a few months it has been! I know that a number of children attended our Care Club during Lockdown and even more came back for our transition weeks in July but it is lovely to see everyone back in their classes.

It is also great to see our new Reception children start school for the first time. This is such a big step in their lives and they seem to be handling the transition really well.

We welcome Miss Johnrose and Mr Evans who have joined us this week.; Miss Johnrose is our new Year 3/4 classteacher and Mr Evans is our new PE Teaching Assistant. I would like to officially welcome all our new children, parents and staff to our St Augustine's family.

I have to say a big thank you to everyone for making the last few days as smooth as possible. I know we have introduced a number of changes around school and everyone seems to be adapting well to these. As mentioned in my initial letter we are assessing the changes regularly and amending as required.

I think that the start of the day arrangements are working really well. As a reminder, please can children not arrive before 8:45am as their classrooms are not open and they have to wait on the playground which means that they could be with children that are not in their bubble.

The end of the day is working quite well and I have to thank everyone for sticking to the one way system that we have introduced for picking up Infant and Year 3 and Year 3/4 children. As it is working so well, parents who have children in both the Infants and Juniors are having to wait around for up to 10 minutes. From Monday we will be trialling the Infants end of day time being 3:10pm instead of 3:05pm; the gates will be opened at 3:05pm.

As you know, we have had to make a number of changes to the way we do things in school to help protect everyone. We are trying to keep everyone in their 'bubbles' as much as possible. Unfortunately this means that we have to postpone a number of activities or alter the way we normally do them until at least after Christmas. Some examples are:

- No school trips this term
- We are unable to have Mass in school
- Assemblies will be by individual classes and videoed. I am aiming to post these on DoJo so that you can join in.
- We will not be taking part in any inter-school sports events this term

Our introductory Parents' Evening, which we normally have in the first few weeks of returning to school, will be done via video this term. Teachers will record a message outlining what they are covering in their class this term, including when homework will be set, PE day and how they will be supporting reading.

I have to say that we are really pleased to see how well the children have adapted to being back in school; considering that most of them have been out of class for over five months, they have all settled back into school life as well as we could have expected. We are seeing lots of smiling faces in the morning and children eager to learn.

Staff are assessing each child's basic Maths and English skills to identify any gaps that they need to focus on. As we expected, the time out of school has been detrimental to our pupils' education and, on the whole, the children are behind where they should be. We are not worried about this as we know that with your support we can get the children back on track. Please support your child with their homework and ensure that you read with them daily. By working together we can help them to catch up.

*Mr John Entwistle*

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

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For further information please look at our school website:  
[www.staugustinespreston.co.uk](http://www.staugustinespreston.co.uk)

#### Dates for your diary

07.09.20 - Infant end of day time revised to 3:10pm

New Reception pupils in mornings

15.09.20 - School photograph day

12.10.20 - Nasal Flu Vaccine Day for all pupils

23.10.20 - School closed—Inset Day

26.10.20 - 30.10.20 - School closed for Half-term

#### School Application Information

**The closing dates for applications for Reception Class and High School are as follows:**

**For high schools it is the 31st October 2020.**

**For primary schools it is the 15th January 2021.**

**For more information please call into school or visit:**

[www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools)

***Please remember to label all your children's clothes.***



**Our Breakfast Club is available from 8:20 am each day for children whose parents are working. This costs £1 a day per child which is charged to your Parent Pay account.**

#### For parents of Junior children

If you collect your child from school, for safety and security, please wait on the Junior playground away from the class windows/doors ie on the tarmac area not the flagged area.



Please make sure that you are signed up to Class Dojo for each of your children. We use this service as our main way of contacting parents and it is the base of our reward system in school. You will receive notifications of all the rewards that your child has received and the reasons for this.

Parents find that Class Dojo is a useful way of contacting teachers if they have any concerns or worries; our weekly newsletter is also shared with parents via Dojo.

We are using the texting service a lot less as it is costly and Dojo is free!

#### Arrangements for PE

**On the day that your child has PE please arrange for them to be dressed in their PE attire ie red PE top, black shorts/leggings, school jumper, tracksuit bottoms (preferably black) and trainers. School uniform is not required on this day. PE days are:-**

**Blossom - Thursday**

**Willow - Wednesday**

**Sycamore - Monday**

**Beech - Tuesday**

**Year 3 - Wednesday**

**Year 3/4 - Thursday**

**Year 4/5 - Tuesday**

**Year 5/6 - Monday**

**Year 6 - Friday**



**Please remember to read with your child every night as it does make a huge difference.**

In the interests of our children's safety please do not park in front of the school gates - especially in the mornings and after school.