



School Newsletter

With Christ we live, we love, we learn and we grow

24.03.20

Dear parents,

Good evening, I hope everyone is well and keeping safe.

Your children's teachers will be sending work to you via *Class Dojo* and *See Saw*. Like, I said in one of the newsletters last week, you cannot replicate the school environment at home and we are not expecting you to do so.

The teachers have tried to allow the children to access the learning as independently as possible. We recognise that each of you will be able to do more or less depending upon your own individual circumstances. Please don't berate yourselves if you see on social media that other parents' children are flying through the work. Just do the best you can in your circumstances.

Similarly, you might feel that the teacher is providing either too little or too much work for your children. Again, just do the best you can. This is a completely new situation for the teachers too, and will take some getting used to. There might also be some technical difficulties, if so please bear with us – just let the teachers know and we'll do the best we can.

We have our childcare provision up and running with a small group attending each day. I have decided against using the time for doing their school work for the time being but I might review that. This is because only a couple of those children come every day of the week and therefore can access the learning at home on other days. It is also because in order to maintain good hygiene, I don't want children to be using devices which the coronavirus might adhere to. I am also worried about children bringing in their own expensive devices which might get damaged in school. That said, I will speak with the teachers about this over the week and hear their thoughts about this.

In order to provide the childcare service, all the staff who can come in, are doing so on a rota basis. All have volunteered to come in at some point in the Easter holiday too. I would like to say a big thank you to them for coming in especially when all the current advice is to stay at home. I would also like to pay tribute to those of our parents who are critical workers in whatever field for the risks they are taking too. Thank you.

A few of the staff are self-isolating either because they have developed the COVID symptoms themselves or members of their families have, we're thinking of them and wish them all a speedy recovery.

Finally, one of the special educational needs specialist teachers who visits our school to work with staff and children sent me a 'social story' about coronavirus to children. It has been written by a serving nurse. I think it will help our younger pupils.

Best wishes,

Patrick Smyth

Headteacher