



St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER

08.01.2021

#12

Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy New Year! Firstly, I would like to thank our staff, parents and carers who have juggled their home life and work responsibilities incredibly well during this challenging time to support the school. Again, our community has shown boundless support, resilience and determination to carry on.



We have had several parent enquiries regarding vouchers, submitting work, devices and SATs. Below is information relating to these enquiries:

Food packs & Vouchers

We are continuing to provide free school meals to eligible pupils who are at home. Our kitchen staff are creating 5-day food parcels each week that can be collected from school. These parcels contain food items rather than pre-prepared meals and include ingredients, which parents can use to prepare healthy lunches for their child/children across the week. Those eligible were contacted this week. At this moment in time, we have had no further information from the Government regarding food vouchers. It is likely that a voucher scheme will only be used if food parcels cannot be provided by schools.

Google Classroom

The engagement on Google Classroom this week has been excellent; you are doing a great job in supporting your children at home. Home schooling can be extremely challenging at times but it is important that you do not put too much pressure on yourselves, especially when things are not going as planned. If you cannot upload work, on the day work is set, then please do not panic, just upload it as close to the provided date as possible. Please remember to click 'Hand/Turn in' when uploading work as it will not notify the teacher that the work has been completed if you don't.

As of Friday 15th January, work will be uploaded onto Google Classroom each Friday to allow parents/carers time to prepare for the week ahead. Please ensure your children only complete the work on the day it has been set for. If attending school, Key Worker pupils should only complete work in class and not at home.

Devices

The Department for Education (DfE) announced it is providing laptops and tablets to schools to help children and families access remote education during closure. On paper this sounds very encouraging and we have had parents requesting devices; however, we have only been allocated a small number of devices which have yet to arrive. If you require work packs, please contact the School Office. Those who are eligible for the DfE devices will be contacted by the school, when they arrive. For families that have a PlayStation or Xbox, please see guidance on our school website on how to use these devices to access Google Classroom.

SATs

The government had already announced the cancellation of some primary tests, but others had been due to go ahead. On Wednesday 6th January, the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, announced that all SATs for Primary pupils will not proceed this year. This will not affect Secondary School applications.

Stay safe. Mr Ashburn.

Useful links

GOOGLE CLASSROOM SUPPORT VIDEOS

[https://](https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/COVID-control-plan/support-with-google-classroom)

[stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/
COVID-control-plan/support-with-
google-classroom](https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/COVID-control-plan/support-with-google-classroom)

GOOGLE CLASSROOM ON CONSOLES

[https://](https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/COVID-control-plan/access-google-classroom-from-a-game-console)

[stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/
COVID-control-plan/access-google-
classroom-from-a-game-console](https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/COVID-control-plan/access-google-classroom-from-a-game-console)

REMOTE LEARNING POLICY

[https://](https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/COVID-control-plan/remote-working-policy)

[stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/
COVID-control-plan/remote-
working-policy](https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/COVID-control-plan/remote-working-policy)

GOOGLE CLASSROOM SUPPORT EMAIL

If you have any questions or problems regarding Google Classroom please email: support@stursulascatholicfederation.co.uk

TEACHER CALLS

Teachers have been calling parents to see how pupils are managing with their remote learning. If you haven't received a call you should be contacted by next week via a withheld number. Calls from teachers will take place every other week and teachers will be available to message on Google Classroom each day. Please be aware that as well as providing support online, teachers will also be teaching in class so response times may take longer than usual.