ST JOHN THE BAPTIST RCP SCHOOL

Headteacher's Note

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 2nd October 2020

World Space Week
October 4 - 10

Dear Parents,

The children have now been back learning for 5 weeks and have had 22 days in school. To be honest it feels like much longer as the days are so busy. By now I was hoping to be in a position of lessening some of the restrictions imposed on us due to Covid-19. However, I find myself in full planning mode preparing for situations of partial closures in the event of any positive cases and also putting things into place in case we have to fully close and end up back in a lockdown situation.

Our main priority is to provide good quality learning opportunities and ensure that standards do not slip and children's attainment is where it should be. We have now set up lots of mini interventions to provide catch up opportunities for any gap in learning that we see and everyone is working incredibly hard.

Please support us in keeping school open. No child should attend school with any corona virus symptoms. If your child has any one of the three main symptoms please do not delay in getting them tested so that we can respond in an appropriate and timely manner and prevent unnecessary further spread of the virus.

There are a number of things that the staff and children like about our new working arrangements operating in single bubbles and equally there are areas that we don't like and are a daily frustration and a challenge. One thing that I desperately miss is meeting together as a whole school. Virtual meetings are a fantastic second best but I do miss having everyone in the same room. Another frustration for me is the delay in getting our Seeds and Gardeners programme going. We should have been in a position to launch our programme this week and introduce seeds to their Gardeners. The children from year 6 and Reception are beginning to have virtual meetings so that they can begin to get to know each other but sadly they are not allowed to meet at this moment in time.

Mrs McKeating

Once again we will be taking part in Operation Christmas Child. This involves filling up a shoe box with small gifts and essential items so that they can be distributed across the globe to the needy children. We have a number of boxes in school but perhaps not enough for everyone. IF you as a family decide that you would like to fill a box I will distribute them across school so that the children can take one home and begin to fill it with love. The collection is not due until 9th - 16th NOVEMBER.



Birthdays

A lot of children and parents have been asking if they can bring bags of sweets or treat to distribute to their friends when it is their birthday. Unfortunately this is not allowed at the moment due to passing of items between families. I apologise in advance if this causes any upset to anyone.



YEAR 5 and 6 parents. Secondary School Selection

At this time of year you would normally be filling your evenings in October trailing around Secondary Schools to find the most suitable school for your child. As this is the year that we do things differently, the secondary schools are hosting virtual open evenings.

Please spend time with you child looking through what is on offer and begin to narrow down the choices. For year 6 parents you will need to have chosen your three schools in preference order and submitted on line applications for each school to the authority and to the School (Catholic or faith schools–supplementary forms) by the 31st October. Remember always to chose three schools. If you have not selected back up choices in the event of not being allocated your first school, your child could be allocated a place at any school in the county.

ST Augustine's Billington

Please use the link below to navigate you to St Augustine's website. Here you will find information about admission arrangements for this year as well as the supplementary form which can also be completed and returned electronically.

https://www.sarchs.com/parents/admissions

Blessed Trinity College, Burnley

Please use the link for our Blessed Trinity's Admissions section.

Love God
Serve others
Work hard
Value all

http://www.btrcc.lancs.sch.uk/index.php/admission-arrangements

There is also a virtual tour of the school on the following link https://blessed-trinity-rc-college--a-voluntary-academy.vr-360-tour.com/e/NgUBcsMrMhA/e?hidelive=true&show_thumbnails=true

Ss John Fisher and Thomas More Roman Catholic High School

The 'Open Event' is now live. This allows parents and pupils to take a virtual tour of Fisher More and a quiz related to the different aspects of school life is available to complete.

https://www.fishermore.lancs.sch.uk/page/title= Transition&pid=30

https://www.fishermore.lancs.sch.uk/page/?title= Virtual+Tour&pid=435

'Virtual Parents Information Evening' via Zoom Thursday 15th October at 5pm

https://zoom.us/j/93550257118?pwd=Q2NrZjA2cmpwWU50OStLM2Q1VmJtUT09

Meeting ID: 935 5025 7118 Passcode: parent

SHUTTLEWORTH COLLEGE

Shuttleworth Transition Channel on YouTube:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb3PRSYGcw_3QFisSVwqAKA

Transition page on our website:
https://www.shuttleworthcollege.org/welcome/transition/







Lunchtime clubs are BACK! Please see the below schedule for the year groups with lunchtime activities

Day	Miss Davis	Mrs Parker
Monday	***YEAR 4*** Art Club	***YEAR 3*** Monday madness fitness
Tuesday	***YEAR 4*** Art Club	***YEAR 2*** Prance and Dance circuits
Wednesday	***YEAR 4*** Art Club	***YEAR 4*** Work It circuits
Thursday	***YEAR 4*** Homework Club	***YEAR 5*** Gardening (mindfulness yoga in bad weather)
Friday		***YEAR 3*** Homework Club

Children's University are a national charitable organisation celebrating learning that takes place outside of school hours. Pupils collect 'credits' for the time they spend outside of school hours participating in a huge variety of different learning activities. Your child can collect 'credits' by:

- Completing monthly home activities which will be detailed on the school website
- Attending the after school clubs in school, when they recommence.
- We are also adding extras such as GIFT team and Councilor meetings.
- Attending 'Learning Destinations' (swimming, cubs, brownies, football, gymnastics, the list is endless!)
- Attending structured activities at libraries, museums, farms, leisure centres etc.
- By taking part in holiday challenges set by our local Children's University

Usually one hour of learning will equal 1 credit. Pupils will collect their credits and if they reach the target set by the Children's University at the end of the year, they are invited to a graduation ceremony. Hours earned at school clubs will be recorded by school. However, if you want to collect credits through external Learning Destinations then you will need to purchase a "Passport to Learning" from the school office which your child keeps throughout their time at school. Passports cost £4.00 each and can be paid for using Parentpay. The passport will then come home with your child.

There is a handy FREE Children's University App you can download which shows all of the Learning Destinations in our area and beyond. (search "Children's University Epassport" log in not required).
Follow the Children's University on Social Media platforms – Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @LancashireCU



Mass Times

Sunday Masses are still suspended at this time due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Fr Allen is now doing some week day masses for Parishioners



St John the Baptist RC Church
Tuesday 6th October at 6pm
Friday 9th October 10am

St Augustine's RC Church
Wednesday 7th October 6pm

St Mary Magdalene's RC Church
Thursday 8th October at 7pm

