ST JOHN THE BAPTIST RCP SCHOOL

Headteacher's Note

Weekly Newsletter
Monday 30th March 2020



Dear Parents,
Last week was the strangest of weeks! On Friday night I acquired two new jobs: the Headteacher of a Virtual School and the manager of a Childcare Centre. This is new territory for us all and has been a steep learning curve for everyone.
The teachers have done an amazing job in getting resources ready and distributed to you all to utilise during this period of school closure. All the teachers are setting daily tasks (around 3 per day) and communicating these on the class pages on the school website. We are monitoring which children are completing the set tasks on Education City, Timestable Rock Stars and written tasks emailed to the teacher. We are also keeping an eye on which children are communicating with their class teacher via the class blog. If your teacher hasn't heard from you last week then a text has been sent and Mrs Clough has been popping around to people's houses to make contact with these families.
At the moment I am still manning the school office each day so you can ring school each day or email the class teacher if you have any queries regarding accessing the set work.

Teacher Email Contacts

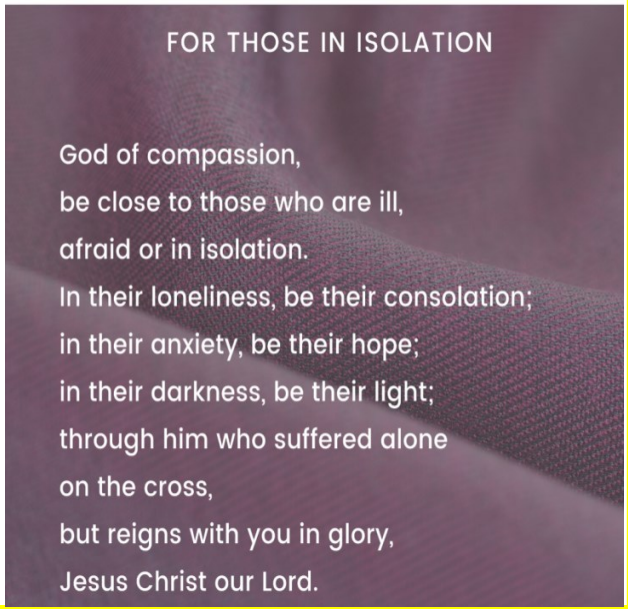
NurseryB_Home@st-john.lancs.sch.uk	Mrs Barker
NurseryJ_Home@st-john.lancs.sch.uk	Miss Kidd
Recp_Home@st-john.lancs.sch.uk	Mrs Collins
Year1_Home@st-john.lancs.sch.uk	Mrs Clough
Year2_Home@st-john.lancs.sch.uk	Miss Dewhurst
Year3_Home@st-john.lancs.sch.uk	Miss Townson
Year4_Home@st-john.lancs.sch.uk	Mr Steele
Year5_Home@st-john.lancs.sch.uk	Miss Hartley
Year6J_Home@st-john.lancs.sch.uk	Mrs Jones

Key Worker Childcare



Last week school remained open for children of Key workers. The numbers attending each day varied from twenty five pupils on Monday to two on Friday. We have eleven families who still require this support as they have no other alternative childcare. I have been looking at ways to minimise staffing levels so to comply with the Government advice of staying at home where possible. This week I have closed the school kitchen and am closing down half of the school to reduce caretaking and cleaning tasks so that staffing levels can be reduced further. ***From Monday 30th March children will require a packed lunch.***

PRAYER FOR CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK





Virtual Learning

The teachers and I are incredibly proud of how well everyone has adapted to a new way of learning and have been really impressed with the dedication and determination that so many of our pupils have shown.

As I can no longer hold a weekly assembly to acknowledge and celebrate effort and achievement I have decided to introduce two new weekly awards of Top Blogger and Virtual Learner of the week.

We have loved seeing the photographs of the children doing various activities at home and they have really cheered us on as we have missed you all being in school. Please keep sending them to us. Our school website has never been so well used by us all and we would love to share as much of the children's achievements as possible on here so in the coming week I am looking to try and update consents with parents for publishing images of their child on twitter and the school website.

Top Blogger

Yr 1	Oliver Potrykus
Yr 2	Tom Sturdy
Yr 3	Oscar Entwistle
Yr 4	Mollie Brelsford
Yr 5	Giuseppe Vozzolo
Yr 6	Leighton Stephens



Home Learning Award

Yr N	Scarlet Morris
Yr R	Alistair Dalton
Yr 1	Faith Morris
Yr 2	Darcy Walmsley
Yr 3	Sebastian Gibb
Yr 4	Theo Edwards
Yr 5	Liam Thornton
Yr 6	Martha Wilds

Home Learning



You may have noticed that the teachers are copying me into their emails so that I can monitor the work that the children have been doing. Well done everyone, you are doing a great job! The children, teachers and obviously the parents are doing an incredible job of adapting to this new way of schooling. Admittedly, as anticipated there have been a few technology based teething problems and I envisage that there may be a few more as the whole nation is using the internet at the same time. I wasn't shocked to see the notice on Education City displaying they were having a few difficulties due to a 550% increase of use last week.

I am delighted to see how many children have earned Class Dojo's this week or a virtual sticker for good work. I think I may need to introduce a parent's award too as there are some parents who have been very creative throughout the week and are taking their child's home learning very seriously, establishing some excellent home routines - Well done! We have also been amused with some of our parents comments who are finding their new roles as teachers rather challenging. I am confident that as the days pass and routines are established, it will get easier for everyone. Please do not persevere in silence - please share any difficulties with the class teachers so that they can assist you.









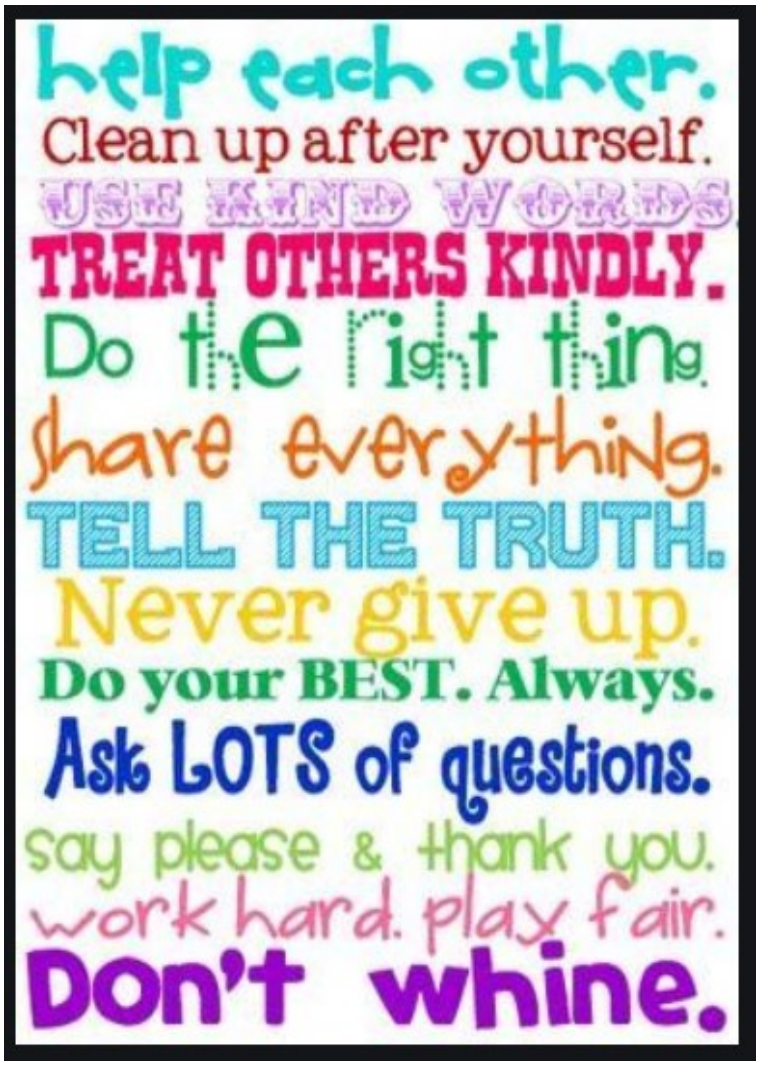


Examples of children working hard at home



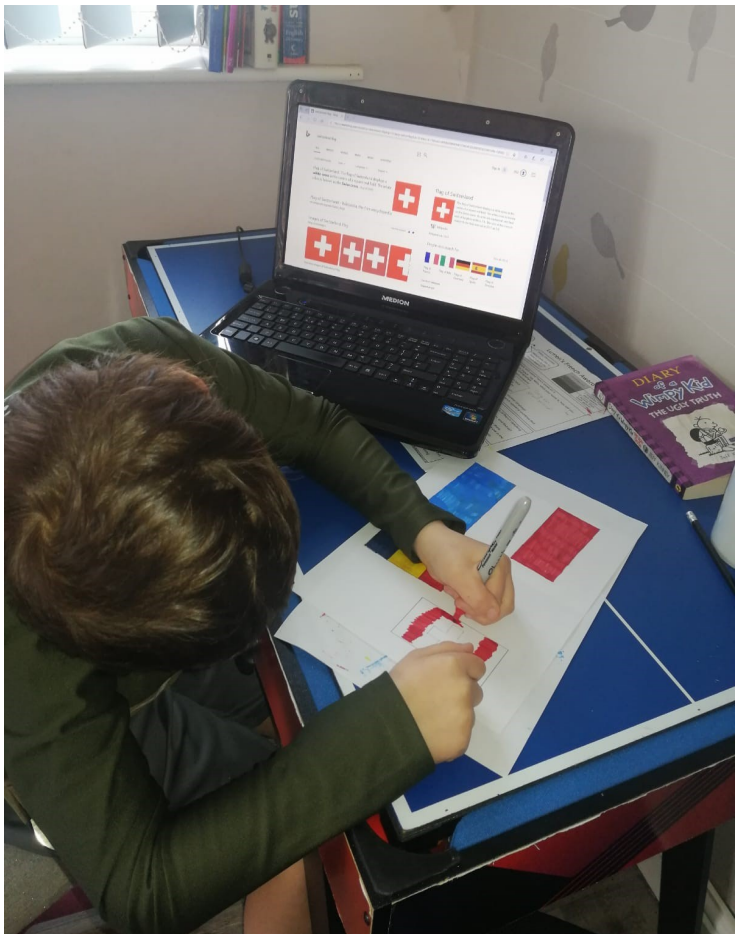













STAY AT HOME
PROTECT THE NHS


Wash your hands for 20 secs
Use a tissue for coughs
Avoid touching your face