





# Newsletter - 20 March 2020

Please remember to view the school calendar/website for further information

#### Our Catholic Mission

Due to current circumstances, all Masses at Catholic churches for the foreseeable future have been cancelled. Churches will remain open for prayer.

The Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation are postponed. Once we are in more stable times, these important steps in our children's journey in faith will be rearranged.

Another vital aspect of these challenging times is our care for each other. There are so many ways in which we are to do this: being attentive to the needs of our neighbour, especially the elderly and vulnerable; contributing to our local food banks; volunteering for charitable initiatives and organisations; simply keeping in touch by all the means open to us. The effort of daily kindness and mutual support for all will continue and increase. Please play your part in this. For your commitment to this, the Church thanks you.

#### Coronavirus - Critical Workers

Many thanks for your quick response to the many communications sent out this week. We now have a fuller understanding of the children for whom we will be providing childcare next week and beyond.

# Self - Isolating

Please may I remind you that if you are self-isolating and your child is eligible for care, your child must not return to school until the end of the 14 day period. If they do have symptoms, they must not return until 7 days after their symptoms stop. This is to reduce the chance of spreading the virus to the other children remaining in school.

### Home Learning

Please check the year group page on the school website for lots more fun ideas for learning as well as the learning packs that are being sent home. If your child is not at school, we will deliver or post your child's pack to you early next week. Why not start each morning with the Joe Wicks workout online at 9.00 am each morning? Good luck!

#### Our Wonderful Parents

Please may I say a huge thank you to all of you, our wonderful parents for all of the lovely gestures, smiles and messages of thanks to all of us here at St. Joseph's during these challenging times. It is very reassuring to know that you are thinking of us just as we are thinking of all of you.

#### Our Fantastic Staff

I would like to pay tribute to all the staff here at St. Joseph's who will be still coming in to supervise, feed and care for your children and be on the end of the phone. They truly are a great and talented team and have the needs of our children and families at heart.

#### Our Amazing Children

It is with a heavy heart that I say farewell to a large majority of our children today, especially Year 6, for the foreseeable future - for how long, nobody knows?

We are blessed and privileged to care for and educate such wonderful, talented, kind and caring children.

They have written stories, letters and poems and drawn beautiful pictures for the residents of nursing homes and care homes in the local area as they are no longer allowed visitors. We hope they bring a moment of cheer to them

## And finally

We will remember all of our school community in our prayers during this difficult time.

May the Lord support us
all the day long
till the shadows lengthen
and the summer evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is o're,
and our work is done!
Then in His mercy
may He give us a safe lodging,
and a holy rest,
and a peace at last.

May God be with you Mrs D McLeary Headteacher