



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School  
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Dear Parents

As we continue to make our way through the current lockdown situation with you, we know that it is not easy to be home schooling your children alongside working from home, or having been furloughed thinking about what will happen next. We know that all our parents are working hard to do all that they can of the home schooling. It has been very rewarding for me to be able to speak with families over the previous weeks finding out all the exciting things that you have been doing together. I look forward to hearing more about these when we are able to see each other in school again.

We await further information from the Government about how the lockdown will be lifted and what that will mean for us all at St Joseph's. We will keep you informed when we receive any further information.

### Prayer Focus

As we enter the month of May the children in school would be thinking about Mary the Mother of Jesus in this her special month.

As the recent letter from His Holiness Pope Francis says, as shared in this week's Parish newsletter, :- "The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family... I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May.



Praying the Rosary can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow".

**The Rosary-1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be**

*Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed by thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven, Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, Lead us not in temptation but deliver us from evil. X 1*

*Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with Thee, Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus, Holy Mary mother of God pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death, Amen x 10*

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen x 1*

In view of this request from the Holy Father, you may wish to pray the Rosary together during this month of May.

We would very much like to see pictures and photographs of you praying the Rosary together. If you are happy for us to publish them on our school website- please send the pictures in to us.

**Staffing**



It is with sadness that I write to tell you that from September I will no longer be Head Teacher at St Joseph's. I will be taking up a new post as the senior Leader for School Improvement within the Painsley South Multi Academy Company.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my twelve years here at St Joseph's, having been privileged to have been offered the opportunity to work with you, your children, the parish, staff and Governors of this wonderful school.

I am very proud to be leaving the school in the very capable hands of Mrs Farrah and the staff, knowing that they will continue to work together with you for the best of all the children at St Joseph's. Mrs Farrah will be undertaking the role of Acting Headteacher as the Governors work to appoint a new Head Teacher in the near future.

Mrs Farrah and I will continue to work together during the autumn term and I look forward to learning about the next steps in St Joseph's journey.

Further information regarding staffing throughout the school will be shared at a later date.

## SATs and Assessments

Please note that the SATs assessments due to take place in Year 2 and Year 6 will not be happening this year. This is a Government decision nationwide. Miss Smith will be speaking to all the high schools over the coming weeks to discuss the level your child was working at prior to lockdown and to support the transition to High School.



The year 1 phonics assessment and Year 4 times tables assessments will also not be taking place.



## Home learning

I hope that you have all been able to access the resources and activities on the school website in order for your child to keep up with their learning. If you would like further resources and activities there is a

range of websites that you can access, these include:-

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

<https://www.thenational.academy/>.

## Internet and online safety during lockdown

During the lockdown there will be plenty of times that your child is accessing the positive aspects of the online world, however it is important to remember that the children need to be given guidance and support in how to keep themselves safe online. This is not always easy to do with the continually changing online world. Please access the following resource to help you to support your child and to talk to them about keeping themselves safe.



<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/parent-and-carer-toolkit>

*"To inspire, to learn, to love with God"*

