



Newsletter - 15 May 2020

[Please remember to view the school calendar/website for further information](#)

Our Catholic Mission

Last Sunday 10 May should have seen our Year 3 children receiving the special Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time. Please remember them and their families in your prayers. We look forward to celebrating this Sacrament with them in the future.

Month of Mary

We remember our mother Mary in our prayers during the month of May. Please try to say the Rosary as a family together.

ON LINE SAFETY

Stay safe and healthy

You may be concerned about how long your children are using their devices at this time. The government has published [guidance for parents and carers](#) on supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing during COVID-19.

Talk to your child. Childnet has guidance for parents and carers to begin a conversation about online safety and Ditch the Label teacher resources that can be helpful for parents to discuss cyberbullying and the government also has helpful advice. Encourage your child to speak to you or a trusted adult if they come across content that makes them uncomfortable.

We have had some concerns reported about the use of Roblox. If your child uses this game, please refer to this specific guidance -

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/roblox-guide-parents>

Half term

Due to the very low demand for care of keyworker children over half term, school will not be open for the week of 25 May.

Phased re-opening of schools - more details

A full risk assessment has been carried out by senior leaders and governors. The plan is that children in Pre-school, YR, Y1 and Y6 will be taught in isolated groups of a maximum of 15 children taught by the same teacher/s. Younger classes will also have a TA. Each group will have their own entry/exit door and a designated outdoor play area for their own use so that no groups mix. There will be a signposted one way system in operation for staggered drop off and

collection times. Parents will not be permitted to enter the building or gather at gates/doors on the premises. Lunches will be available from school but parents are also welcome to send children in with a packed lunch which will all be eaten in classrooms. Each child will have their own table with 2m spacing wherever possible. Surfaces and touchpoints etc will be cleaned regularly during the day as well as at the end of the day. Y6 will bring in their own pencil cases. Children in younger classes will each be provided with a wallet of their own resources to be kept in school and used only by them. The children will complete work in one book which will remain on their table. The timetable will remain flexible so that teachers can plan learning according to the children's needs. Children's mental health and well being will always remain our priority.

Communication

For YR - Y3 we will continue to use the year group email addresses for you to communicate directly with teachers. For Y4-Y6 Google Classroom will remain the main method of communication. From next week, as teachers are making preparations for the phased return, and will be teaching full time from 1 June, it will no longer be possible for them to make individual fortnightly phone calls. However, if you do wish to speak to a teacher, please email your request directly to the teacher or contact the office.

Home Learning

We plan to continue the current arrangements for publishing home learning for all year groups. Children who are not attending school for any reason should continue to complete the home learning.

Surprise!

Please check our website for a message to children and families from our staff at St Joseph's.

And finally

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

May God be with you
Mrs D McLeary
Headteacher

