



19/05/20

Dear all,

I never imagined that my end of Summer 1 newsletter would include many of the topics I will address. It has already been a different and interesting introduction to headship than that of which I was expecting. However, I am thankful that I am here at All Saints' with our amazing team, and kind and supportive families.

Wider Opening of Schools

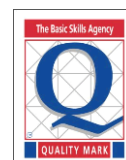
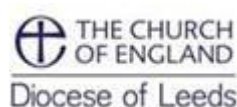
As you know, today we received a letter from the Director of Children and Young People's Services and the council's view is that three out of the five key tests set out by the Government have not been met and **'consequently, Calderdale Council are advising schools not to open more widely until we can be confident that children, young people and staff are able to return to their classrooms safely.'** Throughout this period of lockdown, the Governors and Senior Leadership Team of All Saints' have put the safety and wellbeing of our children and staff first. So, as a Local Authority Maintained School, our decision is to follow their advice, and put our plans for the return of Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils on hold for the time being.

In-School Places for Vulnerable Children and Children of Key Critical Workers in Any Year Group

If you meet the criteria for Key Critical Workers, your child is classed as vulnerable or has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you should have already received an email offering your child a place to attend this provision. Please be aware that although this group of children will be continually supervised throughout the day by staff who will help them to maintain social distancing, encourage and support them and keep to the structure of the school day. The school day will be different to what the children are used to and they will not have 'taught' sessions. Rather, they will be being safely supervised and looked after in school whilst they complete their home-learning packs as set by their class teacher, in the same way as those children still at home will be doing. These eligible families will also receive a further communication with key information to support their child's transition into the provision.

Review of Remote Learning

As it is becoming more likely that remote learning will continue for remainder of this academic year for many children, I wanted to let you know that we are reviewing the remote learning that has been provided to all year groups thus far, with a view to us being able to refine, improve and





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enhance this provision even further after half term. This will include looking at assessment and feedback methods as well as the types and range of cross-curricular activities being set. It was great to see on our recent parent survey that 90% of the 156 respondents wanted these bespoke home learning packs to continue. All Saints' teachers have also been so pleased to see emails of completed work to their class email addresses and shared on their weekly blogs.

We recognise the need to ensure we can maximise the engagement with - and enjoyment of - learning for all our children over the coming weeks and make sure that it is manageable under the constraints imposed by the current lockdown. On that note, can I thank you once again for the way that you continue to support your children with their learning at home – I appreciate how difficult and challenging this can be, especially when you have work and/or other care responsibilities too and am very grateful for your hard work in supporting us with your child's continued education in these very difficult times.

Many of us are becoming increasingly concerned about the hidden pressures of remote learning and the impact that it can have on individual's mental health and well-being. Therefore, we will also look to introduce support for this through our home-learning packs.

Year 6 Transition

It has been confirmed that the usual transition day to high school will not be able to happen this year. We continue to communicate and provide key information for the high schools our children will be attending and will keep you updated on how this develops. With transition in mind, we are also formulating a possible plan about how we can support our Year 6 children and enable them to say farewell to All Saints'. Please rest assured, they will not be forgotten and, once we have gathered your feedback and have a clearer plan, we will let you know.

Thank you for taking the time to read this lengthy newsletter. I will continue to keep you up to date.

Please look after one another and do not hesitate to contact school using the admin@allsaints.calderdale.sch.uk email if we can help in anyway.

Warmest,
Lauren Watson
Headteacher

