



St. Austin's Catholic Primary School – A Voluntary Catholic Academy
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Interim Headteacher: Mr. John Molyneux **Chair of Academy Council: Mrs. Michelle Selway**

Friday 12th June 2020



This Sunday, the Church celebrates the feast of Corpus Christi - the Body of Christ - on which we celebrate and venerate the mystery of the Eucharist or Holy Communion.

For those of us who receive the Eucharist as central to our faith life, this period of lockdown has been the longest most of us will have been without receiving the sacrament since our own Holy Communion Day.

This weekend, let us pray especially for those due to make their First Holy Communion this June whose entry into this experience of their faith has been delayed.

As said before at the start of lockdown, although we are unable to receive the Body of Christ, we are called more than ever at this time - and perhaps even more so in the light of recent events - to BE the Body of Christ. As St Teresa of Avila taught us:

“Christ has no body now but yours.
 No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
 Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world.
 Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.
 Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world.
 Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body.
 Christ has no body now on earth but yours.”

Partial reopening of school

We have now reopened our school to our UFS, Y1 and Y6 children. We welcomed back some of our UFS children on Tuesday morning. It was lovely to see them walking back into school with smiles on their faces. Yesterday saw the return of some of our Y1 and Y6 children. We have been very impressed with how well prepared the children were for returning to school. We thank you, their parents, for spending the time explaining the changes to them.

The start and end of day routines are very different as we are staggering the start and finishing times for each 'bubble.' Thank you, once again, for following these new routines. Staff will continue to guide and direct parents and children as you continue to familiarise yourselves with the new one-way systems, strict start and finish times all of which are in place to ensure social distancing is maintained and everyone is kept safe.

Reception children should enter the site via the KS1 Playground Gate and follow the arrows.

Y1 children should also enter the site via the KS1 Playground and wait on the 'Stand Here' stickers on the playground until a member of staff directs them into the building.

Y6 children should enter the site via the Y3/4 Playground Gate and wait in the playground until a member of staff directs them into the building.

Children attending the Key Worker Group should enter the site via the main gate and head towards the pedestrian gate to the left hand side of the school office. A member of staff will be at this gate from 8.30am.

Our School Office is closed but our office staff can still assist you by telephone or email.

SITE RULES
 Parents Please Follow These Instructions

- PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE SCHOOL SITE IF YOU OR YOUR CHILD ARE DISPLAYING SYMPTOMS
- SYMPTOMS: Cough, Runny nose, Sore throat
- KEEP 2 METRES APART AT ALL TIMES
- KEEP YOUR DISTANCE AS YOU WALK (2m)
- DO NOT BREACH SOCIAL DISTANCING WITH STAFF OR PARENTS
- PLEASE ADHERE TO THE STAGGERED START AND FINISH TIMES
- DO NOT ENTER THE CLASSROOMS
- PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONAL ARROWS

For those children still at home..

Learning continues for those who are unable to attend school. It is likely that children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 will remain learning at home for the rest of this term. Timetables have been sent out via Groupcall this week. Log in codes have been issued to all parents to enable our children to access our online reading scheme – Bug Club. We will continue to remain in contact with our parents. Please contact the school if you need any advice or support.

Photo Gallery

We are hoping to resume our weekly photo gallery in next week's newsletter. This will be a combination of photographs of children at work in school as well as those that we hope you will send in of our children working at home. Please email any photographs to this email address: reception@sa.bkcat.co.uk

Free School Meals Assistance

Some of our families have been receiving Free School Meals Vouchers in recent months. It is our understanding that the Government are continuing to offer these vouchers to families whose children **are not in school and therefore learning from home**. If your child returns to school, you will **no longer be eligible to receive the voucher FOR THAT CHILD** as they will be provided with a free school meal from our school kitchen.

If your financial circumstances have changed as a result of the impact of Covid-19, you may be eligible to claim for free school meals. Please visit our website homepage and use the two links to download a Free School Meals Application Form and accompanying Transparency Notice if you would like to submit an application.

Staying in touch with our Parish Families – St. Austin's and SS. Peter and Paul's Churches

Monsignor Smith's homilies are available at: <http://catholicchurchwakefield.co.uk>. Prayers are offered each morning, by our priests, for the parish family and our specific intentions <http://catholicchurchwakefield.co.uk/post/prayer-intentions>

Fr. Simon and members of the parish family are providing an online recorded Mass that is available to watch online via the parish website www.peterpaul.org.uk. The next Sunday Mass will be available to watch online for 24 hours from 5pm on Saturday 13th June. The parish website is regularly updated with useful reflections and links.

Preparations for First Holy Communion have been cancelled in both parishes until further notice.

Thank you

I wish to thank our fantastic team of teachers, teaching assistants, School Business Manager, Office Admin Staff and Academy Council for their support towards preparing the school to meet the new requirements. Our leadership team have worked tirelessly, supporting me in the leadership of this tremendous task.

Our teachers and TAs have worked hard to prepare learning, classrooms/bubbles and still provide home learning tasks to keep every single child and family in our school suitably educated at this time.

Mr. Lyons, our caretaker and the contract cleaners have prepared our school site ensuring it is as safe and clean as it possibly could be.

Well done everyone. I wish to thank all parents too for making whatever decision you think is right for your child. I know that you have done the right thing for your own families. Thank you for your continuing support to everyone at St. Austin's at this time.

We wish all our families a restful weekend.

