

Newsletter



St. Anselm's Catholic Primary School

11/09/2020

Dear Parents

We are really pleased with how well the children have returned to school. Their ability to switch straight back into school life, all be it a changed school life, is a reminder to us about just how resilient young children are. They seem excited to have returned to the classroom, and keen to learn. It is so lovely to have them all back with us and to have some sense of normality. Our thanks go out to you for being so adaptable and supportive in terms of all the new timings and regulations. There were a few inevitable teething problems to start with but, on the whole, systems are working well.

I would like to welcome all our new families to our school and we hope that you will enjoy being part of our wonderful school community. Our new reception children have settled in so well and are all happily following Miss Brereton into school like little ducklings! The older children are very sad not to be able to play with the reception children but we will be looking at other ways that the children can interact safely and get to know each other.

As part of the prevention strategy detailed in the latest DfE guidance on the re-opening of schools, you will be aware that we are obliged to send home any children who develop one or more of the main Covid-19 symptoms. These are:

- A high temperature (over 37.5°)
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to smell or taste

If your child is sent home then you must arrange for them to be tested for Covid-19 and the household must isolate until the test results come back. We cannot let the child, or siblings, back to school until they receive a negative result. A positive result would lead to additional measures being implemented. We understand the frustration and disruption caused by sending your child home but I'm afraid we are not going to apologise for this as we are following the guidance and doing what we can to protect those in our school community, some of whom are very vulnerable. Please do support us with this.

Thank you parents. We love the new climbing frame!



We are required to write a contingency plan so that we are ready in the event of further closures. Our contingency plan incorporates new government guidance about remote learning, alongside points made by parents as part of our feedback questionnaire last term. Should a bubble need to isolate, or the school needs to close, we will be ready to start up the remote learning quickly. There will be more interaction with the teacher, and greater expectations placed on the children to complete and submit their work.

We are aware of a particularly nasty viral post which is going around on various internet sites currently. The sites are dealing with the situation and it should be cleared within a few days. We know that some children do use apps that are for children aged 13 and over. If this is the case, please remember to supervise your child carefully. You may wish to take this opportunity to talk to your children about being safe on the internet. It is important that you know what your child is doing online and this is a good opportunity to do so. Be curious about what your child is doing but remain calm and non-judgemental. Children treat being online in the same way that they treat real life. In the same way that we talk about what they did at school or during the day, we should have regular discussions about what apps they are using, what are they doing online and how to be happy and safe. There are many ways to support your children and you may want to get advice from charities such as Childline and the NSPCC.

Curriculum meetings for parents

The teachers are busy recording an 'Introduction Meeting' presentation for parents. You will be sent a Goolgle link for this. There will then be the option to attend a Zoom meeting if you have any questions (please email the questions in advance)

Reception are enjoying their garden



Upcoming Dates

September

Zoom curriculum meetings (optional)

14th **Year 5** 4:00 **Year 6** 5:00

15th **Year 4** 4:00

16th **Reception** 10:00 **Year 1** 4:00

17th **Year 2** 4:00

18th **Year 3** 4:00

October

Parent teacher conferences (virtual)

13th **Year 1** and **Year 6**

15th **Year 3** and **Year 4**

20th **Year 2** and **Year 5**

14th **PTA AGM** 7:30pm

26th **Half term**

November

2nd **INSET**

3rd **Term starts**

