

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

'Love one another as I have loved you'



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Tuesday 14th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the new school year! I am absolutely delighted to welcome our school community back once again. I hope you all had a wonderful restful holiday and are ready for the year ahead. The staff are all ready and raring to have a successful year, helping the children to do their best and with your support this should be possible.

A special welcome to any new families and all our 46 wonderful Reception children who are beginning their journey with us at St Nicholas. I am sure you will all make our new families and children most welcome. We are all looking forward to getting to know you all better. We have also welcomed our new Parish Priest Father Craig and I know he will be delighted to meet you all.

Communion: We have had a very busy 12 months catching up with all the sacraments that were delayed due to Covid. I am delighted that the Year 5 children are making their First Holy Communion this Saturday and our Year 6 children on 2nd October. Can you please keep all these children in your prayers.

After school clubs: These have been planned to begin this week. You should know if your child has successfully got a place in a club by now, please contact the office if you are uncertain.

Swimming: Swimming is part of the Key Stage 2 curriculum and has been greatly disrupted because of the long closure of swimming pools. This means that the majority of children in Key Stage 2 have not had in school swimming lessons. We have put together a catch up program starting with Year 5 this week until the end of Spring 1 in February. Year 4 children will begin in Spring 2 until the end of the year. This will be reassessed later in the year. On swimming days at the moment we are asking that the Year 5 children come to school in their winter PE kit (plain black tracksuit) to see if this speeds up changing. If it does not make much difference we may change this decision.

Exceptional Leave Forms: Please remember that I expect full attendance wherever possible. Due to Government law, holidays are no longer authorised. Children need to be in school on time, every day to reach their full potential, especially after recent extended absence. Exceptional leave forms must be completed if any absence is required for exceptional circumstances. Medical appointments must be taken outside school time unless in emergencies. Thank you for your co-operation. Please see the holiday dates online for this year and next to support any arrangements you may need to make.

Reading: We strongly encourage all children to read every night. This is a key to learn and reignite passion for new knowledge, vocabulary and fascinating facts. This is one of the most important things you can do to support your child at this time. Reading Eggs (KS1) and Reading Eggspress (KS2)- Please continue to use this resource to enhance your child's reading and fluency too as we continue to fund this for the whole school year.

Google Classroom (KS1 and KS2): Parents are reminded that Google Classrooms will be still used as a form of communication including setting homework. It is essential we have all parents logged into this account. In the event of any absence due to isolation, this account will be used to set work for home learning for all pupils.

I hope you have a lovely week.

God Bless
Mrs Burns
Head Teacher