



# St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

## Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

*Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God*

Thank you to the parents and carers who have been so responsible last week and this week is observing symptoms in their children, or in themselves, and keeping their children at home and where possible sourcing a Covid test. At the time of writing this newsletter, all test results from amongst the school community have been negative hence all seven classes are in school.

Should a child or staff member have a positive Covid-19 test result, the children and staff in that class bubble are required to self-isolate for fourteen days. Given that on Tuesday evening over 4,000 children in Birmingham schools were self-isolating due to positive tests in 47 bubbles it is a probability rather than a possibility that one or more of our classes will be required to self-isolate at some point. I am asking parents/carers, if you have not already done so, to consider their child care arrangements should one or more of your children be required to stay at home.

Please see the information below taken from the NHS website with information regarding the symptoms of coronavirus and how to respond. NHS Link: [www.nhs.uk/](http://www.nhs.uk/)

- **Check if your child has coronavirus symptoms**

*If you get any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.*

- **Main symptoms**

*The main symptoms of coronavirus are:*

**A high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

**A new, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

**A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

*Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms*

- **What to do if you have symptoms**

*If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:*

1. *Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.*
2. *Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result - only leave your home to have a test.*

*Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.*

*Get a test to check if you have coronavirus (Link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus>)*

### **The next few weeks...**

From next week, the start and end of the day 'windows' will be reduced from thirty minutes each to twenty minutes. From Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September, children can come into school from 8.50 a.m. to 9.10 a.m. and are to be collected between 3.00 p.m. and 3.20 p.m.

Should any children be making their own way home from school, which is only relevant for a few children in the older classes, they will leave school at 3.20 p.m.

There are a small minority of parents/carers who believe that they have the right to park on the yellow zig-zags outside school. Please do not park on the zig-zags, at the very least it is causing 'pinch-points' with other traffic being prevented from moving freely, at worst it is selfish and dangerous. I recognise that individual parents/carers may

have medical reasons to park as close to school as possible but that is not the case for those parking on the zig-zags this week. As one of the children coming into school this morning said to me "It's crazy out there!"

### **Covid-19 Parents/Carers Survey**

Thank you to those parents/carers who completed and returned the Covid-19 Parents/carers Survey for the last academic year. The survey questions reflected the school's response to the crisis during that last school term.

### **Catholic Life**

The Wednesday Word booklet, which has covered each weekend for each weekend throughout the summer, up to and including this weekend is available on the 'Home' page of the school website. This week's Wednesday Word is 'Generous'.



### **Birthday sweets and treats in school**

Earlier this week parents/carers of children in Years 1 to 6 you should have received a text message informing you that the tradition in school of children bringing in sweets or treats on a birthday to celebrate with friends is stopped at this time. Thank you for your support with this. Parents of children in the Reception class should have received the same message today. Please contact school if you did not receive this text message.

### **MacMillan Coffee Morning**

Next Friday, was to have been the national Coffee Morning for MacMillan Cancer Support event in school. We are not in a position to hold a coffee morning but this worthwhile cause still needs support. Therefore, the children may wear their own clothes next Friday; ideally to include something green which is the colour associated with the MacMillan cancer charity. We are asking that a donation of £1 is made for each child. We will also forward on any other donations made to MacMillan as I am aware that this charity is significant to a number of our families.

### **Goodbye Ksawier**

I am sorry to say that Ksawier is leaving school today. We wish him every success at his new school. Ksawier, you will be missed. Good luck and please keep in touch with us.

### **Baby Ignatius**

Nicola and Divine are very proud of their baby brother; Ignatius, who was born on 12<sup>th</sup> September, which is also Divine's birthday. What a great birthday present!

### **Dates for the Diary**

- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September onwards - Reception class in school full time.
- From Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September - Children are to come into school from 8.50 a.m. to 9.10 a.m. and are to be collected between 3.00 p.m. and 3.20 p.m.
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September and subsequent Wednesdays - Reception Class P.E. lessons. The children in Reception class are to wear an outdoor P.E. kit all day - they will therefore not need their uniform on Wednesdays. The outdoor P.E. kit is to be a P.E. t-shirt, ideally a yellow plain t-shirt, and shorts, ideally black, over which the children wear a long sleeved top and jogging/tracksuit bottoms or similar. Children are to wear trainers or pumps. P.E. lessons will take place outdoors and will depend on the weather.
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September - please return any Father Hudson Good Shepherd Appeal boxes by this date.
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September -- MacMillan non-uniform day. Children may wear their own clothes; ideally to include something green (Please do not buy anything green just for this day). We are requesting a £1 donation for MacMillan Cancer Support.
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - End of the first half of the Autumn Term.
- Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October - Applications for secondary schools for current Year 6 children to be completed at <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>.
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Start of the second half of the Autumn Term.

Keep safe,

D. Corkery

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