



St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter Friday 20th November 2020

Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God

Anti-Bullying Week 2020: United Against Bullying



This week is Anti-Bullying Week 2020. This year's theme is: United Against Bullying. Well done to everyone who took part in Odd Socks Day to mark the first day of Anti-Bullying Week.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance have worked with over 300 young people and 100 members of school staff to develop the theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week. Their Anti-Bullying Week 2020 manifesto for change is:

"This year, more than ever, we've witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge.

Anti-Bullying Week is no different. Bullying has a long lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. But by channelling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together. From parents and carers, to teachers and politicians, to children and young people, we all have a part to play in coming together to make a difference.

We're all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we're united against bullying".

In November, We Remember

During November, the Church community gives special thought and prayers to loved ones who have died. Please do continue to keep all of our deceased loved ones in your prayers.

Contact details

Yesterday, you should have received an email from the school regarding a warning about a Tik Tok video that is circulating. A week ago, a text message was forwarded to parents/carers on the telephone numbers provided to school. These two forms of contact will be used, alongside notification on the school's website, should there be a class or classes that have to self-isolate due to Covid, or for a school closure due to weather or other less dramatic reasons. It is therefore important that you can receive text messages and emails from the school and have access to the schools website at www.stteresa.bham.sch.uk

Flu vaccinations

Consent forms for the Flu Vaccinations were collected earlier this week. If you still have not returned your completed form indicated if you do or do not give consent for the flu vaccination to be administered please do so as a matter of urgency and we will endeavour to get these completed forms to the Flu Vaccination team.

Food parcels

Should your family be one that have previously received food parcels through school, or if your family need a food parcel at this time, please come to the school office and we will provide whilst there are food parcels available.

Keeping safe

There are several aspects of coming to and leaving school that I wish for parents and carers to consider. Firstly, as you are aware the time for arriving at school is from 8.50 a.m. to 9.05 a.m. It is evident that the busiest part of this is between 8.50 a.m. and 8.55 a.m. From 8.55 a.m. to 9.05 a.m. the entry into school is much quieter and consequently safer. I would encourage parents and carers to consider either coming to school a couple of minutes later or, with the wet weather as we had yesterday morning, waiting in your cars until the crowd has dispersed and you can enter freely.

This is a similar situation in the afternoon with 3.05 p.m. to 3.10 p.m. being particularly busy and from 3.10 p.m. to

3.20 p.m. being quieter, calmer and safer.

Secondly, the area by the Infant playground where the pathway narrows is an evident 'pinch-point'. If parents/carers from Reception class are collecting their children please stay on the Infant playground and your child will be sent to you. Do not stop and wait on the narrow pathway and put others in a position where they are not able to socially distance from each other.

Finally, I would ask parents and carers, even taking the above measures into account, to consider wearing a face mask whilst on the school site. I am aware that a number of schools insist on any adults on the school site wear a face mask and if the crowding situation is not resolved St. Teresa's School may have to insist on the same expectation.

Your efforts and vigilance so far have contributed to the fact that we have not had to 'close' a class but there is increasing concern that a class closure is an inevitability if we are not all hyper-vigilant over the next few weeks. This would be a shame at any time but we are trying to establish a Covid Safe Christmas for the children, which would not be the same if they cannot be together in school.

Department for Education guidance for parents and carers

Please be aware of the government's guidance '[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term](#)'. This guidance, updated on 12th November, sets out when children and young people may be unable to attend school in line with public health advice to self-isolate because they:

- have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves
- live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive
- are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19) and are requested to do so by NHS Test and Trace or the Public Health England (PHE) advice service.



Catholic Life

The Wednesday Word for this week is available on the 'Home' page of the school website. This week's Wednesday Word is 'Kindness'. In Monday's Collective Worship I will be asking the children about the eight words in the Wednesday Wordsearch.

Catholic Pupil Profile

This half term the two Virtues that are to be a focus for us and the other Catholic schools in the archdiocese of Birmingham are to be 'intentional' and 'prophetic'.

Intentional: planning our actions and choosing to live how God wants us to.

Prophetic: spreading the word of God through how we live our lives.



Reception places for September 2021

Parents/carers who have a child born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 need to make an application for their child to start a Reception class in September 2021 by no later than Friday, 15th January 2021. This is done by an application at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

Baby Cornelia

Congratulations to Victoria's family on the birth of a sister for Victoria. The baby, named Cornelia, was born on 16th November. Victoria is very proud of the addition to her family.

Dates for the Diary

- Thursday 3rd December - Immunisation Team in school to provide Nasal Flu Vaccinations for all children.
- Friday 4th December - all may dress as a rock star for the launch of Times Tables Rock Stars for children in Years 2 to 6. (Details to follow).
- Friday 18th December at 3.20 p.m. - End of the Autumn Term.
- Tuesday 5th January 2021 at 8.50 a.m. - Start of the Spring Term for children.
- By Friday 15th January - Parents/carers need to have make an application for their child to start a Reception class in September 2021.

Keep safe,

D. Corkery

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