



St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School Newsletter Thursday 1st April 2021

Little Flowers Growing and Giving Glory to God



Holy Week

Holy Week Lenten Roadshow

Each year a group of Year 4 children from the Caritas Christi In Urbe schools come together to plan a Lenten Liturgy. Then the children go to four schools and present the Liturgy. Unfortunately, COVID 19 prevented that happening last year and this year. With this, Year 5 took part in planning and leading a Lenten Liturgy for this school. Pictures can be seen on the school website. Go to the webpage click on Catholic Life on the left drop down menu and then Catholic Life 2020-2021 and you will be able to view the photographs. The Liturgy reflected on the Beatitudes which brought us all to consider how we treat others.

St. Chad's Cathedral Easter Scavenger Hunt

During Holy Week children can join in an interactive scavenger hunt through the Cathedral Virtual Tour. The prize at the end of the hunt is an Easter colouring page. The hunt is available on the following link <https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/virtual-tour-explore-st-chads-cathedral/>

The Birmingham City Council Local Offer new website

The Birmingham Local Offer website has been launched. It includes information about the wide range of services that are available to support all areas of a child's life (0-25 years) especially those with a Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND). This includes support with education, physical and mental health, social care, leisure activities and moving towards independence and adulthood.

Every Local Authority in England has a duty to provide children and young people, (0-25 years) with support if they have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities - this is known as the Local Offer. Every Local Authority has to publish what support is available on a website: this is called the Local Offer Website.

This Local Offer website gives information about the support that the local authority expects to be available across education, health and social care. The information on the website is clear and easy to find. It says who a particular service is for, how to apply, and how decisions are made about who gets that service.

Please look at the Local Offer on the website www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk

There is a letter attached to this newsletter from Birmingham City Council in relation to the Local offer.

Medication and Care Plans

As a school we do not hold spare epi-pens. Individual care plans have been updated with this information. If this is relevant to you please sign and return your child's care plan to school.

If a child has a medical care plan and it states that they need medication, then you must ensure that the medication is in school. If you are unable to get medication for your child, you must inform the school and we will ask the school nurse to support in these situations.

Not providing the school with the medication listed on the care plan is a safeguarding issue. If you have recently received a letter from school or phone call from Nurse Ruth Lowe informing you that your child's medication is either out of date or not in school, please arrange to collect the necessary medication and bring it to the school entrance on the first day back to school. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Catholic Life

The Wednesday Word booklet for the Easter break is available on the 'Home' page of the school website. Please do share last weekend's and the next three weekends' gospels with their themes, 'Praise', 'Easter', 'Encourage' and 'Believe'.



Attentive and Discerning

This half term the two Virtues that will be a focus for us and the other Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham are to be Attentive and Discerning.

Attentive to our experience and to our vocation; and discerning about the choices we make and the effects of those choice.

Attendance and Punctuality

Well done to Year 3, which was the best attending class last week with a perfect 100% attendance. Congratulations to the most punctual classes last week, which were Reception, Year 2 and Year 3, each with no children late to school throughout the week.

Attendance

If your child is unwell and will not be attending school, please contact the school office between 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. on 0121 554 9581. Please do this for each day your child is off sick.

If we have not received any information from a parent or carer regarding the reason why their child is not attending school we record the absence as 'N' which means no reason is given and is an unauthorised absence.

Punctuality

Registers are taken between 9.05 a.m. and 9.10 a.m. If your child arrives between 9.10 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. they will be registered as late and you will be asked to make an entry into the late book.

Registers close at 9.30 a.m. If your child arrives after this time they will be registered as late after the close of register which is an unauthorised absence 'U'. You will be asked to make an entry into the late book.

If there are reasons why your late is unable to attend school on time please contact the school and arrange to speak to Miss Shirley or myself and we will arrange to support you in ensuring that your child arrives on time to school.

School Attendance is a Safeguarding issue. The school will investigate any absences and will make referrals to Children's Advice Support Service (CASS) if we have concerns about the welfare and location of a pupil at this school.

Lenten fundraising

Thank you to Year 6 who have led Lenten fundraising for our Lenten charity during this week and have raised £205.30. The winner of the Name the Bunny in the Infant classes was Zakee, who is now the proud owner of Flick. The winner in the Junior classes is Tarjae, who guessed the bunny would be named EB (A.K.A. Easter Bunny).

The winners of the Treasure Hunt in each class were; Rowan, Daya, Jaimar, Aydin, Joshua, Sophia and Rafael. These children each received a large Easter egg.

Lenten fundraising will continue to be led by Year 6 at the start of next term with each activity costing 50p a go.

School Meals

In recent years, there has been a slight increase in the cost of school meals from the start of April. This is not the case this year, but there may be an increase from September.

When we return for the summer Term, in a change to the menus, there will be a second 'Pizza Day', which will be on Mondays. Mrs Walsh has informed me that pepperoni pizza will be returning to the menu as well as cheese and tomato pizza.

Ramadan

During the Easter holidays, the Muslim holy period of Ramadan starts. It will be from the evening of Monday 12th April to sundown on Tuesday 11th May. Could parents/carers of any children who will be fasting during this period please inform the school if their child is following this religious observance which may involve not eating or drinking whilst the child is in school. If this is the case we can monitor the child's well-being and where necessary look to adapt activities children are doing in school.

Covid-19 responses during the Easter break

Where pupils or staff who have been attending school test positive having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

Where pupils or staff attending school test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) during the holidays, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, schools are not required to take any action. Staff, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School will assist with contact tracing during the first six days after the end of this school term; that is from Friday 2nd to Wednesday 7th April. This is to allow time, if symptoms develop within 48 hours of the child last being in school, for a coronavirus (COVID-19) test to be taken and the results returned.

The members of staff who are taking on the responsibility contact tracing will respond to notification from parents/carers of positive cases and notify close contacts who were in school to self-isolate if symptoms developed, or the test was taken although the child was asymptomatic, within 48 hours of the last time the child was in school.

We will not identify any individual where there has been a coronavirus (COVID-19) positive result to other parents/carers. We will inform parents/carers that there has been an individual in that class (bubble) who has a coronavirus (Covid-19) positive result.

For St. Teresa's School, notification will be done in three ways:

- a message on the home page and the relevant class page of the school website for any class (bubble) that are required to self-isolate
- a text message to a parent/carer of any children in the class (bubble)
- email to parents/carers of children who have been attending school in the affected class (bubble). This email will be forwarded to the same email address that you receive this weekly newsletter on

Therefore;

For the first six days after term ends; that is from Friday 2nd April to Wednesday 7th April inclusive, if a pupil who has been attending school tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), the family of the child are to contact school. Contact is to be made by email to enquiry@stteresa.bham.sch.uk. In that email please include;

- which child or children had a coronavirus (COVID-19) positive test result
- the date your child/children first had symptoms. (If there were symptoms)
- the date that the test was taken
- the date the positive test result was confirmed

School staff are not on-call or conducting any contact tracing more than six days after the final day of teaching. As the school's last teaching day is on Thursday 1st April, there should be no (school based) pupil contact tracing beyond Wednesday 7th April.

Should a child, who has been attending school, test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) after developing symptoms more than 48 hours please contact school by email at enquiry@stteresa.bham.sch.uk or by leaving a telephone message on (0121) 554 9581.

These emails and messages will not be actioned until Monday 19th April. This will not require a class (bubble) to isolate but will require the individual child to isolate for ten days from the onset of symptoms.

COVID-19 testing site at Handsworth Wellbeing Centre in Handsworth Park

Below is information provided by Stephen Johnson, Team Leaders at Handsworth Testing Centre:

We are open from 8am-6pm every day of the week and offer lateral flow tests which children, parents and staff can take. However, to get a test they must not have any COVID symptoms. In addition to this, we have recently set up a collection point where carers, school staff, parents and children can collect lateral flow tests (up to 28 test kits) and take them home. This will help to keep schools safe and open.

At the end of this newsletter is an image of a poster which covers the main points about the testing site.

Free School Meals vouchers

Sodexo Free School Meal vouchers have been funded by Birmingham City Council for the two weeks of the Easter break. The voucher codes were forwarded to the relevant parents/carers at the start of this week.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Kymani and his family on the birth of a brother for Kymani. Baby Khaleel was born last Saturday and Kymani is immensely proud of the new addition to his family.

Dates for the Diary

- Thursday 1st April at 3.20 p.m. - End of the Spring Term.
- Monday 19th April - INSET Day. Only staff in school.
- Tuesday 20th April at 8.50 a.m. - Start of the Summer Term for children.
- Friday 23rd April - St. George's feastday. Children may wear own clothes with a white or red theme for a £1.00 donation to the school's Lenten charity.
- Monday 3rd May - Bank Holiday. School closed.
- Thursday 6th May - School closed due to being used as a polling station for the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner and West Midlands Mayor elections.
- Friday 28th May at 3.20 p.m. - End of the first half of the Summer Term.
- Monday 7th June - The final INSET Day of this academic year.
- Tuesday 8th June at 8.50 a.m. - Start of the second half of the Summer Term for children.
- Wednesday 21st July - End of the academic year.

Have a peaceful, restful and safe Easter,

D. Corkery

D. Corkery

WHAT TO DO WITH THE KIDS THIS EASTER?

BIRMINGHAM HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

FIND OVER 400 FREE IDEAS TO KEEP KIDS BUSY

Go to: www.BHAP.co.uk

COOKERY SKILLS	INDOORS AND OUTDOORS GAMES	DANCE
FITNESS AND SPORTS	NATURE TRAILS	PARK ACTIVITIES
EXPLORE BIRMINGHAM	QUIZZES	ARTS AND CRAFTS

Follow us on: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) @Bhamholidayactivities

All activities COVID-appropriate

Birmingham City Council

HANDSWORTH FREE! COVID-19 LATERAL FLOW TEST

WE OFFER TAKE HOME KITS FOR FAMILIES AND SCHOOL WORKERS TO TEST AT HOME

DROP IN AND GET THEM TODAY!!!
We insist on testing before collection

HANDSWORTH WELLBEING CENTRE, Holly Road Handsworth, B20 2BY

7 DAYS A WEEK, 8AM – 6PM, NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED, WALK-INS WELCOME

30 MINUTE RESULTS QUICK AND EASY

Please note we are a centre for people **without symptoms only!** if you have symptoms please isolate and call 119.

