



Interim Headteacher: Mr Simon Bartram

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St Ignatius Catholic Primary School

'An inspired learning community with Jesus Christ at the centre'

Dear Parents & Carers,

01.05.2020

Let me begin by wishing Captain Tom Moore a very happy 100th birthday! He has been an inspiration to us all, raising nearly £30M for the NHS. #CaptainTomMoore

May I also thank Mrs Rodd, Kayden's mum, for the wonderful ideas and kind gestures she has made to boost the morale of all our families. The Video by Tiny Tim was amazing. I've seen some lovely comments on Dojo. If you haven't seen it, it is on school story on Dojo. How many children craved a happy meal after hearing it! Keep looking out on Dojo as we will continue to post messages.

Also, the class pages on the website have now been updated. When you select your child's class, there is now a section at the end of the page called Home Learning Platforms. This has direct links to the relevant learning for your child's age group.

Emergency Contact Number

Mr Bartram has the school mobile which will be on between 8am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, for emergencies only. Please call 07956 662797 should you need to speak to him.

Other contact methods are still available – Class Dojo, school phone number, and office email admin@stig.bkcat.co.uk

Childcare Provision

For those parents who have requested places at school during COVID-19

As stated in the previous newsletters, our critical worker children and vulnerable children will now only attend St Ignatius Catholic Primary School. They will no longer attend English Martyrs School.

Children should arrive at St Ignatius at 8.55am and be collected at 3.20pm.

School is open for critical worker children and vulnerable children on Friday 8th May, which is a Bank Holiday in 2020.

Home learning

Following on from my newsletter sent regarding Online platforms, Class teachers, via Dojo, have now guided you as to where to begin with the White Rose Maths and Oak National Academy learning. Any critical worker child who attends school will also be accessing these resources with assistance from the teacher and TA working that day. The children have shown a good understanding of the work undertaken so far given that they are not always attending school every day. You should have received an email to complete a survey regarding home learning. If you have an older child who is completing their work independently, please incorporate your child's opinion too. The deadline for this is Friday 8th May @2pm. Question 12 on the survey asks about reward and acknowledgement from the school. Due to social distancing, teachers have been unable to mark work as they would normally but I am aware of parents who have sent photos to the teacher of completed tasks. This might be the best approach whilst we still remain in lockdown.

Support for families

A new 24 hour mental health helpline has been launched, offering confidential help and advice, to anyone registered with a GP in Calderdale, Kirklees, Wakefield, Leeds and Barnsley.

Phone number: 0800 183 0558

The new service will support people who are:

- At risk of developing mental health problems.
- Diagnosed common mental health problems.
- Known to mental health services.
- Experiencing mental health distress.
- Seeking information, advice and support.

The service will provide a listening ear, emotional support, advice and signposting to other local services for both individuals and their carers. The provider, NCHA will respond to urgent concerns and operate within a recovery model, ensuring callers' benefit from an effective intervention, in line with local mental health support pathways. Details are attached separately within the email sent.

The Wakefield Mental Health Alliance has commissioned Wakefield Star Bereavement service to support children and young people who are tragically grieving during this time.

Any child, young person or someone caring for them who feels they need help and support due to bereavement can contact the service on:

info@starbereavement.co.uk or on 07599640714. They will aim to respond Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.

<https://www.starwakefield.org.uk/>

Wakefield Children Safeguarding Board have produced a wonderful newsletter full of information, useful contacts and many activity ideas to share with your children. This has been posted on the school website at the bottom of the safeguarding page (under the Key information tab), or can be accessed by clicking the link below.

www.wakefield.gov.uk/Documents/community-housing/community/families-newsletter-april-2020.pdf

Parish Communication

Our Parish community is here to help you at this difficult time. There are a number of groups working hard to support parishioners and other local residents. Please share this message with anyone you know who is in need of assistance.

Fr Richard is available and can be contacted on 01924 275824

Brenda Burnley is coordinating a Parish support group, which can help with friendly phone calls and shopping and can be contacted on 07969553243

Christine is the point of contact for the SVP who are available to support you in many ways and can be contacted on 07595181363.

Catholic Care, the Leeds Diocesan Community Response service, is offering a wide range of support and can be contacted on 07739975001, 07739975008 or 07739975009

Wednesday Word

I will post the Wednesday Word on Dojo every week. Given that this resource was created to support families who couldn't always attend Mass, it seems even more pertinent that we allow 15 minutes once a week to sit down and reflect on the Sunday Gospel. The eldest children in our school lead worship based on the Wednesday Word, whilst other year groups have been active participants in its engagement.

Reflection

May is marked with "alleluias" as we celebrate the Resurrection and live into the Easter joy we proclaim. May is also marked by the church in its dedication of the month to Mary. As we celebrate the Year of The Word, we reflect on the remarkable role Mary plays in salvation history. Her "yes" to God's invitation forever changed the course of history. Today, Mary offers us three essential pathways for living our faith.

Mary shows us how to listen

Mary was a young girl living in a culture where she could have been stoned to death for having a child out-of-wedlock. She knew the cultural and societal consequences of her "yes." She knew what could happen if Joseph didn't understand. She had reason to fear her parents' reactions. When the angel appeared to Mary, we read in scripture how she was deeply troubled. Somewhere deep within she found the courage, inner strength, and grace to respond with full assent, "Let it be done to me according to your word."

Mary shows us what it means to listen with full intensity to what God is asking, God's invitations may very well demand everything of us. Deep pondering, heart-centered attentiveness, and courageous listening are required of us, too.

Mary shows us how God's word must be shared with others

When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth, they did not simply exchange a simple greeting, but one of deep faith. God's word is meant to be shared. It cannot be contained within us if we are to be filled with the life it offers. We must share it with others. During this Year of Word, we are invited to ponder the word of God so that we might share it joyfully with others.

Mary shows us how to live in God's word.

Mary lived moments of profound joy as well as profound sorrow. From losing Jesus in the Temple to the journey to Calvary, Mary lived these sorrows and anguished deeply. Mary formed and raised Jesus from the simplicity of her daily life. She was a person in conversation with God, with the Word of God, and also with the events through which God spoke to her. From the Annunciation to Pentecost, Mary appears as someone whose freedom is completely open to God's will and shows us how to live in God's word.

In this month of May, may we turn to Mary in our times of joy and sorrow and ask her to continue to show us the way to her Son. As we strive to grow in faith and live more fully in God's word, may we, like Mary, bring Christ to others.

May I thank the Trust for all their hard work in communicating with and supporting all our BKCAT schools so effectively. It enables us to communicate efficiently with all our families. The strong Catholic ethos within our Trust has enabled me to stay sane in my first year as head teacher and I will continue to pray to God and work hard to guide our school in these unprecedented times.

Mr S Bartram