



HOLY SOULS
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
"a place where we pray together and everyone is important"
Mallard Close, Acocks Green, Birmingham, B27 6BN
Tel: 0121 272 1776
Email: enquiry@holysoul.bham.sch.uk
Website: www.holysoul.bham.sch.uk
Head Teacher: Mrs Rachel Girling



A St. Teresa of Calcutta
Multi Academy Company
School

Tuesday 30th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well. Thank you for your continued support both for us here in school and the great work you are all doing at home.

Flooding Update

As you are aware, we recently experienced flash flooding in school. This has affected greatly on accessibility to our site, the safety of our site and use of the school hall, playground and classrooms. I am glad to share that we are currently in the process of the clean-up, repair operation, and will endeavour to have the building ready for our return in September. Following our most recent risk assessment (Friday 26th June 2020) and in discussion with our Governing Body we are still unable to open school fully. Because of this, we can only continue to offer access to Key Worker and Vulnerable children. This has brought great sadness as we had hoped to welcome back more of our pupils and see them all prior to finishing for the summer break.

Therefore, we are now planning our "end of year procedures" virtually! They are as follows;

Monday 13th / Tuesday 14th July – final phonecall to pupil / parent from current class teacher.

Monday 13th July – End of Year School Reports posted out.

Monday 13th July – Edenred Free School Meal Vouchers distributed for summer holidays.

Friday 17th July – School closes to pupils for Summer break.

Monday 20th July – In-service Training Day for all staff.





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September updates

As I write this letter all schools nationally are awaiting further information from the Government regarding September. We are desperate to be reunited with our children and families and return to normal! Will we be in bubbles and how big will they be? Will we all return at the same time? The list of questions is endless and I will inform you as soon as we have any updates. Our aim at the moment is to provide the children with an opportunity to spend time with their old class teacher before moving to their new class.

Date	What will we be doing?	Who will be doing it?
Wednesday 2 nd September 2020	In service training day on Safeguarding.	For all staff and Governors
Thursday 3 rd September 2020	Welcome Back!	A day in your old class to look back and share the memories with your class teacher!
Friday 4 th September 2020	Moving on up!	A day in your new class to prepare for the new school year!

Please note this is our plan but it may need to be revised due in line with Government guidelines.

We look forward to welcoming our new Reception children and their families. We have been in touch by telephone and by now you will have received your induction pack. Just because we haven't yet met you doesn't mean we have not been thinking of you and we look forward to you joining our family.





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During the week beginning **Monday 7th September 2020** we look forward to your family stay and play session. Our Reception pupils will then begin their transition to school visits from **Monday 14th September 2020**.

Looking to the future

We have all had to adapt to new ways of working and learning. We are very busy at the moment working on the Recovery Curriculum for when we return in September. School will take a little while to return to what we were used to and the time we have had has also allowed us to reflect on how we can move forward. Our pupils deserve a broad and balanced curriculum that ignites their passion for learning and supports their needs spiritually, socially and emotionally.

Physical Education

Our Sports Premium allocation will see Coach Colm Ternan, owner of Get Sports Active, working in school. As a former pupil it is great to welcome him back and see the success in his vocation in responding to who it is God is calling him to be. He will be working alongside Mrs Corrigan in supporting teachers in developing the teaching and learning of PE skills. This will be very exciting and will see the restructuring of our of extra curricular sports clubs. I thank them both for the work they already started and do watch this space for more info coming soon!

Artsmark

Mrs Gill (Year 1 Class Teacher) will be leading school in September through the Artsmark. The Artsmark is the only creative quality standard for schools and education settings, accredited by Arts Council England. Mrs Gill will be working with them and engaging our staff and pupils in developing and celebrating arts and culture in education. I thank her for leading on this.





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The Saint Teresa of Calcutta MAC Term Dates 2020 / 2021

Our MAC Board and Local Governing Body Board have agreed next years term dates. **A reminder please that holidays must not be booked in term time. We follow the Fast Track to Attendance programme and fines may be issued for holidays taken during In term time.**

School Uniform

We are always complimented when out on a visit or when we have visitors to school about just how smart our children look in their uniform. Thank you children for wearing your school uniform with pride.

Please find attached an order form from the school office with information regarding how to order and when to collect uniform. Please see the school website for a full list of uniform including PE kit requirements.

A reminder please that school shoes must be worn at all times. **These must be black and not in the style of a trainer or have a logo.** Trainers may be worn for playtimes and certain PE lessons.

Staffing Updates

This term we wish a fond farewell to Mrs Greatrex (Y6) and Miss E Thomas (Y4). Mrs Thomas joined us last September and has enjoyed her time in Year 4 as have the children she has taught and staff who have worked with her. I thank her for her enthusiasm and support this year especially with our Computing Curriculum. We hope this is not a goodbye- just a see you soon!

Mrs Greatrex has taught in Catholic Primary Education and Special School Education for thirty two years. That is a fantastic achievement and one to be proud of! We wish her a long and





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happy retirement and thank her for the dedication, commitment, support and the outstanding teaching she has demonstrated during her time here at Holy Souls. In her letter of resignation she asked me to share this with you. **"I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to work, learn and grow in the Holy Souls' community. Working here has contributed greatly to both my professional and personal development. I have enjoyed my stay and met some of the best colleagues of my 32-year career."**

We thank you both and look forward to inviting you to celebrate in the Sacrament of Holy Mass - when we can all gather together.

We welcome two new teachers to school in September. Miss S Kavanagh (Year 6) and Miss C Finnegan (Year 5) who join us in September. Miss Finnegan completed her final teaching practice here at school and will be familiar to our pupils and parents in Year 5. Miss Kavanagh is a former pupil and we are delighted to welcome her back.

We welcome you both to our Holy Souls and Saint Teresa of Calcutta MAC family. We are a great community who will keep you in our prayers and support you as you answer God in who it is he is calling you to be.

Can we help you?

If you need anything, have a question or query please do call the school office. Our staff are on hand to assist you or will redirect you to who or what you may need.

We continue to keep you all in our thoughts and prayers and in particular our Year 6 pupils as they prepare to move on to their Secondary Schools.





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HOPE

Hope is knowing that there is love. It is trust in tomorrow.

It is falling asleep and waking again when the sun rises.

In the midst of a gale at sea, it is to discover land.

In the eyes of another, it is to see that someone understands you.

As long as there is still hope there will also be prayer.

And God will be holding you in his hands.

God bless,

R A Girling

Mrs R A Girling

Head Teacher

