



St Brigid's C of E Primary School

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'Love your neighbour as yourself.'
Luke 10:27

23-4-2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sad news

A few weeks ago, I was informed that Mrs Johnson's (former Assistant Headteacher) husband died unexpectedly. Many staff have been in contact with Mrs Johnson and we have done our best to ensure that she has felt the warm embrace of St. Brigid's at this very difficult time. Tomorrow is the funeral and Mrs Johnson, and her family, will be in our school prayers.

Staffing news

Earlier this term, Miss Bowler decided that she wanted a change of direction in her career. Miss Bowler started work at St. Brigid's in 1992. She is a valued member of staff who has a passion for teaching -especially PE. She has inspired children, over many years, to excel in sports and try a variety of sports. As a result of this we have one of the highest participation rates in sport for any school. She regularly tries to run A, B and C teams for events and takes great delight in encouraging more children into sport. I know this because she always tells me! In the last few years, she has introduced Boccia and Indoor Kurling to the children, which have provided many hours of sporting fun. We have been awarded the 'School Games Gold Mark' five times, and some of our children have excelled by regularly competing at county level or higher! In simple terms, she will be greatly missed by staff and children. We wish her all the very best in the next phase of her career.

Home Learning – Keeping going

We are well into week five of home learning since school closed. My staff are busy learning new skills, and working to new rotas, to ensure that our online learning is consistent, up to date and available. We have been updating website content on a weekly basis which has included podcasts and various stories read by teachers. Only today we have posted podcasts from Mrs Ross, Mr Marriott and Miss Smith. I will upload mine tomorrow! Please keep checking the website, as we are developing new areas to view constantly. This includes a section which will help you to explain the Corona Virus to your children. We will be developing a well-being area over the next few weeks to support your children. Over the next few weeks my staff are working to develop the use of Google Classrooms and once this is complete, we will start to share aspects of this with the children. Do not worry, we are not aiming to add to parental workload, but will be using Google Classroom to give more direct feedback to children, particularly from Year 3 to Year 6.

Phone calls to home

A few weeks ago my staff started making phone calls to each and every one of you. Sometimes the staff have spoken to parents and sometimes to the children as well. My staff report that they have

enjoyed catching up with families and asking about their home learning and how things are generally going. In some instances, where technology has not been working in the home, we have lent resources from school. We will continue to make contact on a regular basis and keep the communication going.

Other types of learning

Over the past few weeks we have seen more interaction on the VLE or through Tapestry (reception classes). It is great to see that children and families have explored some new ideas or created some lovely pieces of work. I have seen some great videos from some year groups –I especially liked the video of the children throwing a teddy bear to each other. It looked like great fun and something that they will all remember. Today, I promised my youngest son that I would make bread with him. We succeeded and narrowly avoided a few disasters along the way. On reflection, it was great fun and I wonder whether I would have done that if we had been in normal time, rather than lock down. Incidentally, it was tasty but a little too doughy to eat regularly!

Free School Meals

Please check the front page of the school website for information about free school meals. The information includes the application procedure and how to check for eligibility.

With best wishes to all our families at this time,

Stay safe,

Neil Le Feuvre

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