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|  | St Catherine’s Catholic Primary School Newsletter |
| March 2021 | Live, Love and Learn Together |
| *Important dates for your diary:**Coming up…**School open-**Pupils return to school:**Monday 8th March 2021* | Message from Mrs Terrey.We are so excited to see all the children on Monday, the staff and children cannot wait to welcome everyone. Please remember your Spud-tacular World Book day potato characters on Monday. I will be judging the creations and selecting 2 winners who will win a small prize for their creativity. Watch out for pictures in the next newsletter. We have also asked that remote learners bring a self portrait to school on Monday morning… Myself, and Mrs Fearn will see you on the playground. **What safety procedures will be in place in school?*** Pupils will be encouraged to maintain social distancing while in school.
* Staff will wear a face covering at all times unless it prevents the effective teaching of pupils.
* Adults will maintain social distancing where possible, working alongside and limiting face to face close contact with the children.
* Pupils will be encouraged to maintain high standards of hand and personal hygiene. We will be using songs, posters and the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ slogan with the children.
* Frequent cleaning and hand washing will be part of the daily school routine.
* Each class will act as a learning bubble and each Key Stage will act as a larger bubble at playtimes and lunchtimes.
* Each pupil will have their own resources for learning.
* Children will sit side by side, facing the front, usually in rows.
* Tables, chairs and equipment will be thoroughly cleaned between activities by adults.
* There will be staggered playtimes and lunchtimes to reduce contact with the other bubbles.
* There will be no movement inside the school of large groups of children.
* Children and adults must only attend school if they are well.
* Any adult entering the school site must wear a face mask unless they are exempt.
* There will be 2 members of staff in the playground at the start and end of the day.

**Do I have to send my child?*** Yes. All children are expected to attend school daily.
* Please contact the school office if your child is not attending school.
* If you, your child or a member of your family displays COVID symptoms please inform school and update school regarding the results of any testing.

 **Will the school staff be carrying out COVID tests on my child?*** No, teachers in primary schools will not be carrying out tests and the government guidance states that primary age pupils should not be tested.
* Adults can access lateral flow tests by requesting kits themselves.
* You are entitled to request a kit if you form part of a childcare or support bubble for a school age child.
* The guidance can be found here: www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff.

**What are the times for school and where do we go?*** The school start and end times have been staggered to stop large groups of children and adults meeting at school.
* Only 1 parent should accompany/collect children from school.
* Children will be collected from their drop off point and parents should not enter the school building.
* Please follow the signs for entering the school site and waiting areas.
* All classes- except Sycamore (Year 2) will be met/collected from the playground
* Please observe social distancing whilst in school.
* Adults should leave the school site immediately at the start and end of the day.

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| Class | Start time | End time | Waiting area |
| Birch | 8.45am | 3.10pm |  Enter through main vehicle entrance. Wait at the side entrance for Reception  |
| Oak | 8.45am | 3.10pm | Enter through main vehicle entrance. Wait at the main entrance to school |
| Sycamore | 8.45am | 3.10pm | Enter through pedestrian side gate. Walk up gravel path to side class entrance. Wait outside. |
| Ash | 8.30am | 3.00pm | Enter through main vehicle entrance. Wait at the main entrance to school, entry via ramp to class. |
| Hazel | 8.30am | 3.00pm | Enter through main vehicle exit. Wait at the hut entrance. |
| Maple | 8.30am | 3.00pm | Enter through main vehicle exit. Wait at the main entrance to school. |

**Can my child wear a face covering?*** We would prefer pupils to remove any face coverings as they enter school and store these in a plastic bag until the end of the school day.
* Anyone wearing a face covering will be able to remove and store them in a plastic bag and sanitise their hands immediately.
* We will support any child/family who may be anxious at returning to school and will discuss any needs with them individually.

**What should I do if I have siblings with different start times?*** If you have children in different bubbles please bring ALL the children for the earliest time. All the children in the family will enter school and go to their bubble to be begin their learning. The children should be collected as a group at the finish time for the earliest child.

**What do the children need to have for school?*** All children should wear the correct school uniform. The school tie is not a requirement.
* Drink in a named bottle.
* Years 2 to 6 may bring a pencil case with their own pens/pencils to remain in school
* Pupils who have PE/Games or Forest school should wear appropriate clothing and footwear to school on these days.

**What will happen at lunch time?*** Children in KS1 will eat lunch in the hall. Parents should have ordered packed lunches. If you have not ordered a packed lunch you must provide one until you have ordered through the school website.
* KS2 children will eat in their classrooms and should have a packed lunch.
* The children will be supervised by either the Teacher or support assistant with Mid-day supervisors also providing supervision.
* Children will have a break outside (weather permitting).
* Playtimes will be staggered to prevent learning bubbles crossing over.

**Can the children have reading books?*** Yes. All children will have reading books that can go home and return to school.
* The school will implement a safety system ensuring that books are not used for at least 48 hours once they have been returned.

**What happens if my child becomes unwell at school?*** If your child develops COVID symptoms they will be cared for in a safe area with a member of staff away from other pupils.
* School will contact you, or other contacts, so that they can be collected as soon as possible.
* You should seek medical advice and organise a test if needed informing school of the outcome as soon as it is known.
* Please can all contact information be up to date. Contact the school office if you are unsure what information regarding contacts the school has.

**What happens if the test is negative?*** If the test is negative children can return to school as soon as they are well enough to do so.

**What happens if the test is positive?*** You should inform school as soon as possible.
* You should follow government guidance and self-isolate returning to school after the period of quarantine is completed.
* The class bubble will remain open and school will follow guidance form the Public Health Trust.

**What school work should my child do if we are self-isolating?*** If you are self-isolating and your child is well, remote home learning will be available for them to complete. There will be a school timetable on the website for them to follow. This will provide guidance on learning expectations and timings.
* Pupils and parents will have access to IXL. This a Maths and English learning platform. This provides learning for pupils from Reception to Year 6. This will form the basis of morning work in line with their peers in school.
* Google classroom will be where we provide work for afternoon remote home learning so that, even if your child is self-isolating, they can access a broad and balanced curriculum in line with their peers in school.
* Reading work will also be given. In KS1 this will be the provision of reading books and in KS2 this will be using the Accelerated reading system and reading quiz.

**I have a question you have not answered.**I have endeavoured to provide as much detail as possible. However, if there are other queries please send them to the office and I will respond directly.**The staff and I look forward to welcoming all children back on Monday.** |
|  | The Team at St Catherine’s Catholic Primary School. |