

St Albert's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter Thursday, 07 January 2021

www.stalbertsprimary.co.uk

Welcome Back

I would like to welcome you all back to the Spring term, if not to school. This is not the start that we were hoping for but I think that we are all in agreement that the safety of our children, families, staff and communities are paramount at this time. We will continue to work together and support one another and hopefully things will become calmer as the weeks progress.

Coronavirus

Knowsley have seen concerning growth in transmission rates across the community this week and it is indeed higher than any we have seen in Knowsley before. It is therefore critical that our whole community is adhering to the rules and taking all steps to keep themselves and their loved ones safe.

Lockdown

I am sure that everyone within our community is clear on the message given by our Prime Minister at the start of the week and we are all coming to terms with it. Unfortunately school is **only open to essential Keyworkers/ vulnerable children until we hear otherwise.**

The seriousness of the situation cannot be stressed enough and the message was strong that children are safer at home and I am pleased to say that our parents have been very supportive in this regard. **Unfortunately as a school we have already met the numbers of children in KS2 that we can accept whilst retaining a safe environment for all.**

All parents applying now will be placed on a waiting list which we will keep under review.

Remote Learning

All children within our school are now being provided with a remote learning offer which matches the current curriculum for their year group and progress through their work will be monitored and checked by their teachers.

We began our remote learning programme this week and all classes have had work posted to their class platforms. We have also been busy organising zooms and the aim is for these to take place daily for children from Year 2 upwards in the form of a check in or learning sessions. It is vitally important that children attend these sessions and access learning daily. Teachers will be monitoring individual children's engagement and this has already begun.

As I have said previously it is important to remember that we are in a much stronger position to be able to support your children remotely in both their learning and their personal development needs during this lockdown. Your children are also in a much stronger position to access the learning as we have done a lot of work around this. Parents now need to support us by establishing and keeping to routines, making their expectations to their children very clear and supporting them in whatever way they can. This will vary for each child and family so please be kind to yourself in this regard. We appreciate that this is not an ideal situation.

Feedback from staff in relation to zooms- Staff are delighted at the response from the children so far to remote learning and zooms it is so much more positive. Children are really engaging and putting lots of effort into this. Our numbers are growing daily.

What a great start St Albert's. Keep up the good work.

Well-being Calls

You may have already received a call from your child's class teacher and these will continue weekly. You will be called by either the class teacher, the class TA or a learning mentor. These calls are supportive and hopefully welcomed by you. Indeed they were a lifeline for many in the last lock down and vital for us in regards to keeping in touch with you. Please remember that if you have any concerns you can call school and we will support you as much as possible.

FSM

Miss Jewell sent an email/text yesterday in relation to FSM hampers. These are being provided instead of vouchers and we would urge you to contact school and place your order. We will be making up these hampers in school and then we will be giving you a socially distanced time for collection.

Learning Packs

These have now been gathered and can be collected in a socially distanced manner from school on Friday morning. Please see the times below. **REMEMBER to wear your mask and stay well away from others.**

Rec and Siblings 9.30
Y1 and Siblings 10.00
Year 2 and siblings 10.30
Year 3 and siblings 11.00
Year 4 and siblings 11.30
Year 5 and siblings 12.00
Year 6 and siblings 12.30

At St. Albert's, our mission is walking together with Jesus to

LOVE, LEARN AND SERVE

Our vision centres around the 'CHILD'

C for the Child, H for High Expectations, I for Inspirational & Memorable, L for Listening and D for Dreams and Doors.

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IT

We spent a lot of time organising IT last term and stressing the importance of making sure that families had addressed this. We also sent a significant number of devices home on loan to families in need. Obviously these were in limited supply. If you were in receipt of a school device and your child got their own for Christmas we will be asking for the school device to be returned so that it can be redistributed.

If we get any more devices we will continue working through our list. If you do need something to access remote learning at home, we have a small number of AMAZON fire tablets available. If you call the school office we will try and get this arranged for you.

In addition, if you do not have broadband at home and you are struggling to afford additional data on your mobile device please contact school as we may be able to provide additional free data or provide you with a free data only sim card.

Staffing

Mr Powell, who was previously a member of staff at St Albert's, has now returned from Spain and we have welcomed him back into school. He is currently working alongside Miss Ashdown in Year 6. We are delighted to have him back. I also wanted to let parents know that Mrs Riddick is expecting her third child and will begin her maternity leave at the February half term (if not before). Mrs Riddick will be missed, especially by many parents who are working very closely with her but it is only for a short time and we wish her and her family the very best of luck.

WE ARE NOT ALL IN
THE SAME BOAT
BUT WE ARE ALL IN THE SAME STORM



SUPPORT EACHOTHER
#DONTJUDGE #BEKIND

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