



Dear Parents and Carers

COVID 19 Update

As we are all aware, the 21st June came and went without any further changes to the restrictions we are all facing in the pandemic. Unfortunately, there has been an increase in confirmed cases in local schools with bubbles being sent home to self-isolate for 10 days. We still have to take the advice from the Local Authority and Public Health and I have been asked to remind our community of the following:

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID19

If your child develops symptoms arrange for a PCR COVID-19 test. This can be done online at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or by calling 119 if you do not have access to the internet. Book a test if your child/ren or other member of your household develops symptoms.

Symptoms

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you are not sure whether you or your child's symptoms suggest that they have coronavirus or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult this online NHS symptom checker:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. If you are concerned about your child's health or the health of anyone else in your household please seek advice from your GP, use NHS 111 online <https://111.nhs.uk/> or call NHS 111.

Please remember to contact the school immediately if you child has to self isolate or has a confirmed COVID case.

If you live with someone with a confirmed COVID test, those in the family home will also need to self isolate, even if they test negative.

Details on self isolation can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/how-long-to-self-isolate/>

Impact of COVID for Summer Term Events

Sports Day

As a result of COVID restrictions still being in place for the school, like the majority of schools, we will not be able to invite parents to Sports Day events this year. Pupils in KS1 and KS2 will be having their Sports Days this Thursday and Friday and will be cheered on by the pupils and staff. Weather permitting, our plan is: Thursday 1st July Afternoon- LKS2; Friday 2nd July Morning- KS1; Friday 2nd July Afternoon UKS2.

As usual, Nicky will be altering the menu to a packed lunch option, as our lunchtimes will be more fluid due to the races.

If the weather forecast does change, we will re-arrange – the pupils will not be missing out.

EYFS will be holding their own mini Olympics on Thursday 8th July.

UKS2 Performance

Many thanks for the feedback we received from UKS2 parents regarding recording the performance this year and your understanding given the circumstances.

Secondary Transfer

The Year 6s will not be able to visit their new secondary schools, but please be assured that at the end of next week, we would have met with our secondary colleagues to help with your child's transfer and to share what an amazing cohort you are.

Feast of St Peter and St Paul

It was the turn of our Year 3 and 4 pupils to celebrate mass with Fr Antonio in person yesterday as we marked the feast day of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. The mass was followed online in the other classrooms – the wonders of online conferencing! Fr Antonio remarked afterwards how impressed he was with the knowledge of our pupils compared to his previous experiences and was looking forward to spending time with the pupils and eating lunch in the school in September.

School Building

Whilst 21st June did not bring the end of COVID measures, it did signify the end of our builders being part of our school life as they completed the building work a month ahead of schedule. It still feels quite strange driving into school and not having to think about how my working day will be disrupted by building meetings and accommodating requests made by Kier. Having a spacious playground and new play equipment has been wonderful and the smiles on the pupils' faces have been very satisfying. We will be having an 'official' opening in the Autumn Term, which will allow the building to be blessed and celebrated.

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust

As we wrote last week, the school is now committed to being part of this important academy trust as we look to secure the future of Catholic education in the Lea Valley for future generations. There is lots of administration work to be done with a view to convert, hopefully, on 1st September.

Prayer

Blessed Redeemer, Saints Peter and Paul were leaders and models in strengthening the faith of the infant Church, and I ask them to pray for my faith to grow strong.

Saint Paul wrote in his second letter to Saint Timothy, "I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God that you have." Wherever I am still a baby in my relationship with You, weak and uncertain, I ask Saints Peter and Paul to pray for me to grow into spiritual maturity.

Help me, O Lord, to increase in faith and trust. Where Your presence is but a spark in me, fan it into a flame that brightens other people's lives. Saints Peter and Paul, pray for me.

Amen.