Our Lady & St Joseph Primary School Newsletter 1186 Newsletter 1186

February 25th 2021

Dear parents: on Monday of this week Boris Johnson announced: "The crocus of hope is poking through the frost and Spring is on its way, both literally and metaphorically." He then went on to announce a cautious roadmap of our way back to the lives we once knew. The news all schools and parents were eagerly waiting for was that all schools would fully reopen in England for all children on Monday March 8th. Emily Maitlis on Newsnight later that night said that the cheers from parents were so loud they could be heard by the NASA landing craft on Mars. I quite liked that thought. I have long been hoping for this too and with the lovely weather suddenly life seemed a bit brighter and more hopeful. However!! . (a famous Ofsted word), this does not mean a full return to school life as known last March 2020. However, I do hope to get things back as fast as possible but with obvious limitations. Guidance on Public Health, Health and Safety, Social Distancing etc all still apply until further notice. With all of this in mind I am updating FAQs and print several below. I will also set up a Google Meet for everyone next week and will try and answer any further questions then prior to full reopening. Please look out for texts, newsletters, class dojos, Just Eat delivery drivers and carrier pigeons in the next few days as I will try and get as much information out as possible to

Frequently asked questions FAQs - school reopening March 8th

1. Will the school be open for all children and all ages on Monday March 8th?

YES ...the school will be open for all children from Reception to Year 6. Attendance is mandatory for all pupils unless a valid informed reason.

2. Will Breakfast Club and After school club resume?

YES ... on the same day March 8th. Booking details tomorrow.

3. Do children have to wear school uniform?

YES normal proper school uniform for all pupils.

4. Will hot lunches be provided?

YES same as usual kitchen will be fully open. Packed lunches may be brought in also.

5. Is it fully back to normal or will they still be in 'bubbles' or class settings?

ALL children will be in their own class groups or bubbles all day including as far as possible in the playgrounds. Social distancing will be maintained as far as is possible with young children.

6. Will my child have to wear a face mask or PPE?

NO but they can if they wish and you must provide and clean these.

7. Will all lessons resume the same as in March 2020?

NO ...it will be a phased return. We hope to have PE outdoors back and music also starting again in the first week.

8. Will parents be allowed to drop their children off at the classroom door and collect same as before?

NO parents can only enter the school grounds by appointment only.

9. Will my child have to be tested before returning to school or when school resumes?

NO ...lateral flow tests are for secondary pupils only. Teachers and staff now have these tests and have been asked to conduct them twice a week. I do every week ...

10. Start and finish times will they be staggered and can they bring bikes and scooters?

YES Start times are the same between 8.45am and 9.00am. Collection Reception - 3.15pm Year 1 3.20pm Year 2 3.25pm. From Culford Road Gate. Children responsible for parking and collecting bikes etc and may not be ridden in school grounds.

Years 3 and 4 @ 3.20pm Years 5 and 6 3.30pm from Buckingham Road Gate.

Pics of the week:

Crocuses of Hope and other signs of Spring in our school this week and Perseverance NASA vehicle on Mars hearing all the cheering parents with news of schools reopening.







and finally amazing pics from Mars ... hopeful but cautious now just can't wait for those magic words ...

"the seatbelt sign is now turned off and we are cruising at 30,000 feet ...your gin and tonic sir" .. dream on !!

