Our Lady & St Joseph Primary School Newsletter 1155

Dear parents / carers: This week the plans for reopening in September 2020 have finally been published by the government. If you want to read the full report of 40 pages there is a link below. It is likely to change again as every report has since March. My own views on it are as I said it will change again. I will not spin or give you false promises about 'bubbles' etc but will do my very best to reopen for everyone and equally ensure the health, safety and welfare of staff and children. Plus as I have stated so many times we have never closed. We currently are at 25% of our normal capacity and this is far higher than the national average. It has also been announced that attendance will be compulsory from September and families may be fined £120 for non-attendance. This was announced as if it was new. It is not, but is headline grabbing and is basically exactly the same as pre-March 20th. If you are worried about sending your child back in September I totally get it but please let us know. Communication is important. I spent over 3 years working in the NHS before becoming a teacher. I am in the unusual position of having perspective of both and my brother was an ENT surgeon for over 40 years. Sunday is the last clap for the NHS. I write below who I will be thinking about as well on Sunday. Rainy and windy July weekend coming up.

Dates until July 17th 2020 ... provisional

July 3rd Parents and children are told classes for next year

July 10th Last day of school for Reception and Year 1 children at usual times for collection. Transition Day for Reception and year 1 meet new teacher.

July 13th All of Year 6 return in 2 groups from 8.45am onwards. Events all week for Year 6. Key workers and vulnerable pupils also can attend until Friday if they have been notified already. All other classes to come in for half a day in 2 groups beginning this week.

July 13th Year 2 children come in groups of 15 for half a day and meet their teacher

July 14th Year 3 children come in groups of 15 for half a day and meet their teacher

July 15th Year 4 children come in groups of 15 for half a day and meet their teacher.

July 16th Year 5 children come in groups of 15 for half a day and meet their new teacher.

July 17th Last day of term for all children school closes at 1.30pm.

September 2nd school reopens for Year 1 to Year 6 pupils.

September 7th New Reception children come in over the next 3 days.

Classes for 2020 and 2021 confirmed

Reception - Ms Chiara Scarpini

Year 1 - Ms Emma Sharpe

Year 2 - Ms Sarah Woodhouse and Ms Aoife **O'Grady**

Year 3 - Ms Jade Cahill

Year 4 - Mr Josh Rook

Year 5 - Ms Judyta Ruminska

Year 6 - Ms Rosanna Harries

Eagle eyed among you will notice that almost every teacher has moved up with their class apart from Ms Ruminska who is covering Ms Walshe in Year 5 who is on maternity leave. I know this is what most of you were hoping for and I am pleased to be able to do this to ensure continuity and stability in these days. Nursery is now closed owing to falling roles and is now unsustainable.

New guidance on schools reopening :

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actionsfor-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidancefor-full-opening-schools

and finally I remember coming in to work on the Monday (my birthday) after lockdown on the 20th and was wondering how many children would come in, how lockdown would be obeyed and so much more. It was eerily quiet. I waited at the gate in Culford Road saw our local street sweeper Turkish / Kurdish guy cheerily going about his work cleaning up. This image was burned onto my consciousness ... he was a key worker as were the refuse collectors who also came by shortly after as were so many more ...he still goes about his work every day ...I'll be thinking of him and so many more on Sunday pubs opening but won't be popping in Google bars in Texas and read what happened Covid 19 has not gone away I need a haircut more whatever you do if you have a crafty pint or hair appointment enjoy and be happy !!!