

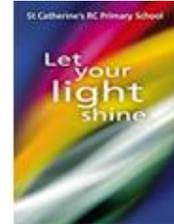
St Catherine's RC Primary School

11 September 2020 - Newsletter 1/20-21

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I know that we are all special



Dear parents, carers, friends and governors,

Welcome to our first school newsletter of 2020/21, to everyone returning this week and to all our new pupils. Welcome to the St Catherine's family. . Inevitably, this newsletter is dominated by COVID matters; it is important that we continue to share information and work together for the safety of all in our school community. We hope that in the coming months we will be able to return to full normality, but for now we continue to work to make our school a safe and happy place to be.

Full Opening of the School

As we reach the end of Week 1 can I take the opportunity to say that I am deeply grateful to all parents and staff for adjusting to changes and new routines and for helping to reduce congestion on the school site at pick-up/drop-off times.

Your children have been amazing this week. It has been a real joy to hear the laughter, to see children renew friendships and adapt to new ways of working. They have been brilliant in and out of the classroom and that is due to our parents preparing children to come back with confidence, perhaps despite your own anxieties, and our staff who have re-ignited the sparks which make our school a happy place to flourish, whether you are a child or an adult. Thank you!

Reminder of start/finish times: please arrive AT the start/finish time. If you have more than one child, all siblings should arrive at the time of the earliest starter and go to class, and all depart with the earliest finisher.

Y5/9: 8.50-3.20pm

Y3/4: 9am -3.10pm

Y1/2: 9.10am-3pm

Nursery/Rec: 9.15-3pm

School Meals

The new staggered timings for lunches mean that we are now able from Monday 14 September to make School Meals available to pupils in Year 3,4,5 and 6. Please book using the Parent Pay app as usual. If you are unsure how to do this please contact the school office. A daily school meal costs £2.20. For the next few weeks we will have no Bread bar or Salad bar available; we will publish the new menus as soon as they are available.

Other reminders: Children should bring a drinks bottle to and from school each day.

Reading Books will go home on a Monday, to be returned on a FRIDAY and then re-issued the following Monday. School will provide a bag for the book to travel between home and school

PE kit: children should come to school wearing PE kit on the days that they have PE. On colder days leggings, joggers, tracksuits can be worn over PE kit.



Covid-19 related pupil absence A quick reference guide for parents

What to do if	Action Needed	Return to school when.....
My Child has Covid-19 symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH TEMPERATURE – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back. • A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH this means coughing a lot more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24hrs . • A LOSS OR CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE. this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything. 	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Get a test. INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTThe test comes back negative
My Child tests positive for covid-19.....	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 10 days. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Bubble isolates/remote learning.They feel better. They can return after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of taste/smell. These symptoms can last for several weeks.
My Child tests negative	CONTACT THE SCHOOL Discuss when your child can come back to school (same day/next day)The test comes back negative.
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to covid-19	FOLLOW USUAL SCHOOL ABSENCE POLICY PROCEDURE	After 48hrs following the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea if this is the cause of absence
Someone in my household has covid-19 symptoms	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. Contact school. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Household members to get tested. INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTSThe test comes back negative.
Someone in my household tests positive for covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. Contact school Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 daysThe child has completed 14 days of isolation
NHS test & trace has identified my child has been in close contact of someone with symptoms of confirmed covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. CONTACT SCHOOL Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 daysThe child has completed 14 days of isolation
We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine.	Do not take unauthorised leave in term time. Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed. Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 days from return date. Self-isolate the whole household.The quarantine period of 14 days has been completed
We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL CONTACT SCHOOL Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again.School inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school.
My child's bubble is closed due to a covid-19 outbreak in school.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL At home support your child with remote education provided by school. Your child will need to isolate for 14 days.School will inform you when the bubble will be reopened.

With so much information around about COVID-19, I thought it may be helpful to share the above quick guide with you. In the event of a positive test for COVID-19 the school would work closely with the Newcastle Health Protection Team and with Public Health England to determine what actions need to be taken.

If you need to book a test or seek advice about testing , call 119.

Best wishes
 M Ewing
 Headteacher

