



ST.THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

24th February 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Return to School

As you are aware, the Prime Minister announced on Monday that the government has set out its plan for the return of all pupils to schools and colleges, as part of the [roadmap for leaving lockdown](#).

All primary school pupils will return to face-to-face education on Monday 8th March. School attendance will be mandatory and the usual rules and duties around school attendance will be in place. School staff have access to home asymptomatic tests and will be encouraged to test regularly to identify positive cases more quickly and break the chains of transmission. Systems of control that have been in place since September to reduce the risk of transmission will continue including enhanced cleaning and retaining bubbles. Staggered timings for the beginning and end of each day will continue as before including the different drop off and collection points. Face masks must be worn by all adults at all times on school grounds and face to face interviews with staff continue to be suspended. Social distancing is still in place so please remember that at the school gate. We are very much looking forward to welcoming the children back but we continue to need your support to keep everyone safe. I will be in touch again, nearer the time.

World Book Day

Thursday 4th March is World Book Day and although it is somewhat different this year, it would still be good to mark this day. Pupils who are attending school (key worker and vulnerable children) may come to school dressed as their favourite book character or with a decorated paper tie/headband etc. As for those children who are home learners, it would be great to see photos of them also dressed up through class dojo or emailed to the office.

Construction

Work will be taking place on the footpath outside school for approximately three weeks. The paths are being dug up so that ducts for internet cables can be laid. This is work undertaken on behalf of Medway Council (not the school) but it will mean that the path will be shut at various parts and times during this time. Please take extra care especially with young children and I'm sure the workmen will appreciate if you show extra patience.

Lunchtime supervision

If you are interested in becoming a relief lunchtime supervisor please get in touch with Miss Keohane in the office. Any employment will of course be subject to satisfactory DBS clearance.



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Lent

And finally, just a reminder that Lent began last week on 17th February. Lent is an opportunity for us to make a fresh start. As the long journey to Easter stretches before us, it is time to take stock and to reflect on our lives. We are called to make a change – to spend more time in prayer, to fast and go without something, to remember what is truly important and to share what we have with others who are in need. After the difficult year that we have had, we need to take time to heal and to find new ways of being a community. It is a time to renew our relationship with God and with one another; a time to show love and kindness to each other.

Lenten Prayer

God of love, fill my heart with your compassion and mercy. Throughout my Lenten journey inspire me to come to know you better and to reach out in love to others. Amen

(CAFOD)

God bless and take care,

Mrs Redmond
Executive Headteacher



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