



Newsletter September 25th 2020

Dear Parents,

Now that our third week of term is over, we are thankful for our learning 'Laudato Si and Me'. The staff and children are enjoying being back together, but I sense a tiredness this week; this is understandable as routine schooling takes stamina which is built up over time. Please continue to send in a fruit snack for the afternoons to energize and refresh your children.

Coming soon

Plymouth CAST has given all schools within our multi-academy trust, access to a new online home learning programme (IXL) and to a new learning platform called Google Classroom. IXL will provide online home learning in Maths and English, whilst Google Classroom will replace eSchools as a platform for teachers to communicate with their classes and post home learning assignments. Google Classroom also has the additional advantage of video conferencing for classes or groups. Staff will be sending home pupil access and logins before half term.

Remote Learning

Any pupil who is isolating from school or is off school due to an imposed lockdown will be set home learning by the class teacher. This will include access to IXL and Google Classroom. In addition, teachers will expect pupils to use other online learning including Bug Club, Doodle Maths etc.

Virtual Communication

Teachers will post presentations on their class webpages in replacement of 'Meet the Teacher' sessions that usually take place in September. The purpose is to confirm class routines and expectations.

Pupil progress and target information will be shared with parents before half term. Parents will have the option of a virtual consultation with teachers where you will be able to discuss how your child is coping with being back at school.

Our 'Open Evening' for entry to Year R 2021 will be a virtual event and further details will be available later this month.

COVID-19 Tests and Self Isolation

We have sent home the NHS Tests and Trace letter dated 23rd September. Please do read this. All information sent home relating to COVID-19 is posted on our C-19 webpage on our school website.

Please remember that if any person or child is isolating they must not come onto school site.

Face Coverings

From Monday 28th September Plymouth CAST have directed all staff to wear face covering in communal areas outside of the classrooms. Pupils know that adults will wear face coverings when they are out of the classrooms – not when they are working with pupils. Staff have shared a social story with their classes and discussed this in assembly. Staff may elect to wear a clear visor in the classrooms - we will continue to maintain the stance that children need to see our faces when we teach. All visitors to school must wear a face covering on site, visitors to school are by appointment only.

Wearing face coverings on site for parents is not mandatory, but strongly advised as we have seen a rise in cases of COVID-19 locally. Remember a person who wears a face covering is actually not protecting themselves but protecting others – this shows a concern and love for one's neighbour. All responsible adults have a choice, however, where we believe that peak pick up and drop off times are congested, please wear a face covering or indicate that you are exempt. If you are exempt, please do let us know and we will modify our arrangements to keep you and staff safe.

Sandwell project

Thank you to those that have sent consent forms back. We have had an enthusiastic response. Any pupils who did not have an opportunity to participate this week will have another opportunity soon.

Creative Learning

The children have really enjoyed their first 3 weeks back in school. They have revisited Laudato Si and the Pope's message to us all to care for our common home and each other, they have studied artists and enjoyed using pattern in art and design. In all of this the pupils have focused on their wellbeing and settling back into routines and reforming relationships with adults and their peers. Daily journaling is a really positive feature of their new routine and this helps the children to have a positive outlook, to be grateful and solutions focused.

Let Us Pray

We give thanks for:

- ❖ The creative learning during our Laudato Si and Maths / Art weeks this term.
- ❖ New pupils joining us in Year 2 next week.
- ❖ The prayers from our parishes and local community.

We pray for those in our community:

- ❖ Who struggle with mental health and wellbeing, that they receive the love and support they need.
- ❖ Who lead our Trust and support our school.
- ❖ Who are new, that they receive a big welcome.
- ❖ Fr Chacko and all local clergy that they continue to inspire and support us in faith, hope and love.



During the month of October, we reflect on the role of Mary, our heavenly mother. We will be miming the Hail Mary Prayer in school and have the opportunity to pray the **rosary** together.

Reflection

Be happy in the moment,
That's enough.
Each moment is all we need,
Not more.

Mother Teresa.

And finally, thank you for your continued support. Please help us to maintain a healthy community by following the government guidelines and avoid mixing households outside of school.

Best wishes to you all.

Clare Tickel

Headteacher

faith
hope
love