



Dear Parents,

Co-Vid update- Thank you to parents and staff for their respect, speed and attitude, yesterday, in safely ensuring that Y6 evacuated the site, in line with current isolation procedures. Thank you also to office staff for efficient communication and reassurance. We are missing you already, Y6 and staff, but know that Mrs Polito has great plans for you, via the class page. Mrs Polito will be sharing some of your work with me, across the week. Please stay safe so that we can see you again on Friday 20th November.

Parents Consultations and Inset Day – Friday 27th November. This will be an Inset day for all pupils. Staff will be contacting you across the day to share progress and next steps for all of your children. Almost all parents have now chosen time slots. Please remember staff will require you to be fair to all other waiting parents- all children are equally important. Please, however, be patient if phone calls are a little later than anticipated - staff will be doing their very best to keep to schedule, with your help.

Living our faith. We continue to be really delighted with your commitment to charity. Our Poppy Appeal, to date, has raised £147.50. Thank you very much, on behalf of the British Legion. This closes on 22/11/20. Normally, we would also be asking you to take your child/ren Christmas shopping, at this time of year- for a present to put under our Christmas tree. **This year, we will instead be asking for a donation, via the Gateway, towards schools in our locality with significantly deprived pupils.** Their head teachers have already said that they would be extremely grateful. We will ask the children to add a bauble to the school Christmas tree, (once hands have been sanitised) when you have donated. That way, they will be proud of their part in the giving, too. Many thanks in anticipation

Reminders

The school twitter account – We are almost at 100 followers. That is great to hear. We still look forward to hearing from those who have not yet signed up. It is a great insight into your children's experience in school.

Homework- In most cases, this is really improving. Class pages are a pleasure to open and look through the homework that staff are assigning. There are still a few parents who think it is not their responsibility to support their child. Their children, therefore, lose out in many ways. Christmas is coming, invest in a laptop or tablet to enable learning to be facilitated at home. Pre-owned versions are available from ICT stores and online shops for a fraction of the actual price of new ones.

Parking- Some parents were frustrated, this morning, by the parking of other parents in Weston Crescent. Please be safe; it only takes a minute to kill a child and a life time to regret it.

Hands, Face, Space - Thanks. I can honestly say that the number of parents lingering on and around the school site in close proximity, has improved. That is good news. However, governors inform me that many have now taken to chatting, without social distancing, on the church car park. Together, they will be forwarding a letter to you in the near future.

Other news ...

Security gates- Good news! We have secured a £60,000+ grant to improve site security. This will mean that the car park and front entrance will only be accessible through security controlled gates and a video recognition system. It will also mean that the spate of unwanted visitors that we have experienced in the past, will no longer have access on site. Work will commence during the February half term. It will mean some temporary disruption, but the long term gain will be worth it.

Christmas Activities- We intend to celebrate Christmas in many ways such as: a virtual visit from Santa; a streamed version of the nativities or of prayer services; a variation on the traditional carol services and a collection, onsite for local foodbanks. Again, more details to follow. Look out for more details coming soon.

Proud staff- we were so proud of your children, yesterday morning. They conducted themselves with dignity, respect, compassion and understanding during the two minute silence. I stood in silence with Y6 and was truly moved by their attention to the moment. Well done all children.

And Finally...

“Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn; At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, We will remember them” By Lawrence Binyon

“Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another”