



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Ayr Drive, Jarrow NE32 4AW Tel. 0191 4898336: Fax. 0191 4898338

Acting Executive Head Teacher: Mrs. M. Graham

Acting Head of School: Mrs. A. Tumelty

soffice@stmarysjarrow.co.uk www.stmarysjarrow.co.uk

21st June 2021

Dear families,

We are approaching the end of the summer term and unfortunately COVID restrictions are still in place, which means that many planned events have had to change.

Sport's Day 2021

Following up on the message that we cannot have parents at the sport's day, school have had a significant amount of backlash around this decision. We had hoped that we could invite you onto the school field to see at least one event. When the government made the decision to delay the wider reopening of events and lift restrictions, we looked very carefully at the guidelines and have followed protocols. We also sought advice from Health and Safety and our Risk Assessments have been updated.

The guidance clearly states that the legal gathering limits where spectators can gather outside in separate groups is up to 30. Most of our classes are larger than 30, so even with one adult per child, we would be failing to comply with guidelines. We will take as many photos as we can to share with you.

I understand that this is disappointing for many of you, particularly if this is your child's last year at primary school, but we have followed the guidelines to stay safe.

As Euro 2020 is taking place, we can all see the groups of supporters and crowds. They have a different set of guidelines to follow, so we cannot be compared to those. Our priority is protecting the staff and pupils. I have also heard comments that parents are allowed to gather on the yard when collecting children and it is the same. I would like to remind you that you must still socially distance while collecting your children. Staggered leaving times and a one-way system is still in place to support this.

Communication

We value ClassDojo and the flexibility that it offers us in terms of school to home communication. To receive all of the messages, please ensure that your notifications are turned on.

I would like to remind you to be respectful to staff on ClassDojo and where possible to only send messages during working hours. Please do not expect that staff will message you back on an evening or a weekend. Teachers often receive messages about enquiries that they can't answer, as they are in reference to decisions that the senior leadership team have made. I know that it is very easy to send a quick ClassDojo message, but if it is related to a whole school decision then please direct any messages through the office email soffice@stmarysjarrow.co.uk and they can be dealt with by the leadership team.

Staffing

We are finalising our staffing arrangements for next year and we will inform you about your child's teacher for next academic year as soon as the final decisions are made.

Our three teaching students, Mr. Gray, year 5, Miss Buzzeo, year 2, and Mrs. Miller, year 1 are completing their time at St. Mary's. They have all been at the school since the start of the academic year and have progressed really well. Mr. Gray and Mrs. Miller leave on Friday and Miss Buzzeo leaves next Wednesday. They have all said that they will volunteer some time in the next few weeks so that they can still support the children, so you may still see them around. They are all dedicated and will be wonderful teachers.





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NSPCC

In our PSHE lesson on Thursday 23rd June 2021, we will be discussing the NSPCC's Underwear Rule. This is designed to teach pupils how to stay safe from sexual abuse, without giving explicit information or telling scary stories or even using the term "sexual abuse."

In the lesson, children will learn about the 'PANTS' acrostic, which stands for:

- Privates are private
- Always remember your body belongs to you
- No means no
- Talk about secrets that upset you
- Speak up, someone can help

The lesson will be delivered in a way that's fully age-appropriate.

More information about the Underwear Rule, including a short film and a parent guide can be found at nspcc.org.uk/underwearrule

Transition

We have unfortunately had to cancel our up-coming reception meeting on Thursday 24th June, due to COVID guidelines. The children will be transitioned through nursery, and those not in our nursery have been invited into school. A pack with information will be sent out to you. If your nursery child is attending a different school then they will be in touch directly with you.

Reception children are transitioning to the main the school. They are being taught in the main school on a Monday pm and are going to have their lunch on a Thursday in the dining hall. This has an impact on the bubbles that we have in the hall. To accommodate this, we will be providing upper key stage classes with a packed lunch instead of a hot dinner on alternative Thursdays for the next few weeks. If the weather is nice they will be able to eat outside.

Thursday 24th June- Year 6 will receive a take away following assessments.

Thursday 1st July- Year 5 will receive a packed lunch instead of a hot meal.

Thursday 8th July- Year 6 will receive a packed lunch instead of a hot meal.

Thursday 15th July- Year 5 will receive a packed lunch instead of a hot meal.

Year six are due to attend their secondary schools in July, we are awaiting information about how this will be held.

Sun Ready Schools

We will be hosting a sun ready assembly for the children. Please support this by putting sun cream on your child before they come to school and providing them with a hat and water.

Summer holiday provision

We are definitely running provision for the first two weeks of the holidays. Week one is going to be run by Grassroots and the second week will be led by school staff. I am trying to identify if we have secured funding for the two weeks, but it is unfortunately taking a long time. The timing will fit in with the normal school day and wraparound will not be provided.

To secure a place on either club please pay a £5 deposit on parent pay. This will need to be paid for both clubs if you want to secure a place. The maximum cost is £40 each week. Once we know about the funding then we will adjust payments depending on what we receive. The clubs will go on ParentPay tomorrow.





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Upcoming events

| Dates | Pupils involved | Events | Notes |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Wednesday, 23 rd June 2021 | Reception – year six | NSPCC assembly | The children will revisit previous work around keeping safe and the PANTS resources. |
| Thursday, 24 th June 2021 | Year 1 and Year 2 | Nature workshop | Children need walking boots, wellies or sturdy shoes in school. |
| Friday, 25 th June 2021 | Reception- year six | Sport's day | The whole school will be taking part in a fun sport's day. PE kits to be worn by all. Please bring water bottles. |
| Monday, 28 th June 2021 | Nursery | Sport's Day | PE kits to be worn. Please bring water bottles. |
| Friday, 2 nd July 2021 | Nursery- year six | INSET day | Whole school is closed for staff training. |
| Wednesday 7 th July 2021 | Nursery- year six | Non-uniform day | Children can attend in no school uniform as part of our fundraising activities. We would appreciate if you could send in some sweets, chocolates or other items for the raffle. New items only. Thanks. |
| Monday, 12 th July 2021 | Nursery- year six | End of year reports | Children will bring home their end of year school report. |
| Monday, 12 th July 2021 | Year six | Team Challenges | The children will take part in team building challenges. PE kits must be worn. |
| Monday, 12 th July 2021 | Year six | Cluster leaver's liturgy | The cluster primary schools are meeting virtually to reflect on their time at primary school. Rearranged from 30 th June. |
| Tuesday, 13 th July 2021 | Year six | End of year concert | Year six will perform the concert, this will be recorded and shared. |
| Friday, 16 th July 2021 | Nursery- year six | Fundraising event | Raffles will be held. Purchase tickets for £1 each on ParentPay. |
| Monday, 19 th July 2021 | Year six | Leaver's assembly | Year six will host their leaver's assembly to their families, this will either be live or recorded. |
| Thursday, 22 nd July 2021 | Nursery- year six | End of term | School will close at 1:30pm for the summer holidays. |
| Friday, 23 rd July 2021 | Nursery- year six | INSET day | Whole school is closed for staff training. |

Thanking you,

Mrs. Tumelty
Acting Head of School.

