

Dear Children, Parent and Carers,

This week we sent out a message to all of the children letting them know we are thinking of them. If you haven't seen the you tube clip, the link is below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iUQkEVDIMmM>

We realise the children are missing school and their teachers and we wanted to let them know we are thinking of them all and missing them too. **With this in mind, we are planning to start making occasional phone calls to the children, just so they can hear a familiar voice from school. These phone calls will be made from your child's Class teacher or Teaching Assistant and will take place in the week they are in school. This means you will find, if you have more than one child in school, that your children will probably receive a phone call during different weeks.**

Again there has been a lot of speculation in the media about school possibly reopening or partially reopening at the start of June. This has not been confirmed by the Government and we will not know any more on how the Government plans to start coming out of lockdown until Sunday 10th May. Please be assured when an announcement about dates for when the school will reopen or partially reopen we will let you know.

In the unprecedented time we find ourselves in, we are all finding things a bit difficult, so if you have any real worries or concerns or you need some support then please do contact the school and let us know. Even though, we have a small number of staff in school, we have got staff (Mrs Pattinson and Jenny Ranson - our Family Support Worker) who can phone families and signpost them to support available in the local community. The school office is open from 08.45-3.00pm Monday to Friday.

You can also find support from:

Free@last
49 Nechells Park Road
Nechells,
Birmingham.
B7 5PR.

TEL: 0121 327 5959

They are open from 10am-12.00pm and offer lots of support and advice as well as working as a local food bank.

and

Call Nechells POD team on 07305 862 545 - Rachel Perks
28 Oliver street,
Nechells,
Birmingham.
B7 4NX.

They are offering a sign posting service and are a good contact for the local housing team if you are having any issues.

Keep safe and God bless

Key/Critical Workers and Vulnerable Children:

Currently, St Joseph's Catholic School is open to a few of our children who are the children of key/critical workers or are classed as vulnerable children. If, at any point over the coming weeks, your situation changes, so for example you become classed as a key/critical worker and you have no one to look after your child/ren during the school day, you may be eligible for them to come into school. Please do get in touch with the school to discuss your situation, if it changes, and we can talk about your needs. The school office is open from 08.45-3.00pm Monday to Friday.

Spiritual Communion:

The following website facilitates the live streaming of Mass. St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, Our Lady of Lourdes, Yardley Wood, Our Lady and St Brigid, Northfield, St Ambrose Barlow, Hall Green and St Edwards, Selly Park are some local churches where Mass can be viewed at various times.

<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/>

<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/>

Some resources that are available for you to use as a family have been provided by the Archdiocese of Birmingham and some groups they work with, below is a list of these that you may want to look at:

- Weekly Worship and Song: Week 5 is now on YouTube and can be accessed here https://youtu.be/bs36zxL_EE8 or from the DES website page <https://www.bdes.org.uk/resources-for-prayer-and-learning.html>
- The Lay Chaplain at St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, Birmingham is sharing daily Collective Worship and this is being uploaded at the start of every week <https://www.bdes.org.uk/shared-resources-from-diocesan-schools.html>
- Ten Ten Theatre Company are also providing free resources for:
Sunday Liturgies for Families at: <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/sunday-liturgy-for-families/>
Daily Prayer for Home at: <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/daily-prayers-for-home/>
15 Prayers During School Closure at: <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/15-prayers>
- New prayer resources from Kenelm Youth Trust and ST John Fisher, Newcastle at: <https://www.bdes.org.uk/shared-resources-from-diocesan-schools.html>
- Kenelm Youth Trust have also put together the first in a video series called 'How to Pray', which is released every Wednesday – you can find the links to it on all their social media channels and You Tube.
Instagram: @Soli_kyt
Facebook: solikyt
YouTube: <https://youtu.be/JEAvu7HuW7w>
- **Masses for the Sick and their Families, NHS Front-line workers and those in Social Care:** Thursday 7pm. This week the Mass is being celebrated in Leeds Cathedral by Bishop Marcus Stock (formerly of the Archdiocese of Birmingham) <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-xVdN6rMCG0sSgk8Rulow>

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary during the coronavirus pandemic:

O Mary,
You always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you,
Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain,
keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana in Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our suffering
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection.
Amen

Under your protection, we seek refuge,
Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial,
But deliver us from every danger,
O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Online resources:

Please do keep using the online resources made available from [BBC Bitesize](#) and the [Oak National academy](#) as they have online lessons for each year group up to Y10.

Both of these services feature online lessons which are updated on a weekly basis.

In both cases, there are weekly plans of lessons that children can access. These resources are available for you to use with your children, but please do check the resources beforehand to make sure you are happy with the content of them.

Phonics resources online for reception and Year 1 :

In the last 2 weeks two English Hub has been providing 3 phonics lessons a day. There are three different daily phonic lessons for the Birmingham English Hub available on the following YouTube link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP_FbjYUP_UtldV2K_-niWw/videos.

They are posted daily at 10am Reception, 10.30am Year 1 and 11am "Learning to Blend" (Reception and Year 1 who need more practice). These can be accessed anytime with different lessons every time.

Home Learning Packs:

As a school, we are continuing to issue our home learning resources, every Monday. Teachers continue to add learning resources and activities onto our new 'Home Learning' page on our website. On our home page there is a link to the page, so you can find your child's year group activities easily.

If your child or one or more of your children **are in Years 4, 5 and 6** please encourage them to go onto Kidblog and do some of the work their teachers have been setting for them on there. If they

have lost their login details or were absent from school when they were given out, please do contact school as we can ensure we get the login details to you.

Helping children with SEND continue education:

On the 19th April, DfE released advice for parents and carers looking after children with special educational needs and disabilities.

The guidance gives parents access to:

- a list of [online education resources for children with SEND](#);
- [coronavirus educational resources](#) from The Sensory Projects;
- [SEND-specific resources for learning from home](#) from Tech Ability;
- [advice on supporting children with a learning disability or autistic spectrum disorder \(ASD\)](#) from the Council for Disabled Children;
- [recommendations on special educational needs](#) from the Education Endowment Foundation.

Please hover over the writing in blue and then press control and click you will be able to access these resources.

Contact details for SENAR:

Birmingham City Council have sent out contact details for the SENAR team for parents who need to contact them about their SEND child. Please note the NEW contact details if you need to get in touch with the team who will ensure your enquiry is dealt with in a timely manner.

Families who would like to speak to someone about their child, please call our Parent Link Service on 0121 303 8461 or email parentlinkservice@birmingham.gov.uk

Mental Health and Well-being:

To support children's mental health and well-being across Birmingham, a new service has been set up called Kooth. **Kooth** is being provided now as a free, safe and anonymous service to support young people's emotional and mental health in Birmingham. Because young people have suddenly had exams cancelled, transition arrangements thrown up in the air and are dealing with the impact of COVID-19 on their loved ones this is important. The new service was successfully launched on Monday 13th April for young people from year 6, aged 11 up to 25. The full offer, including online self-referral can be accessed at www.kooth.com.

Kooth is linked into the wider mental health support from Forward Thinking Birmingham and offers:

- Online **mental health counselling** and **chat** services from midday to 10pm during the week, and 6pm to 10pm at weekends
- **Peer to peer support** through moderated discussion forums
- **Self-care tools and resources** to build resilience
- **Early response to and identification** of emotional wellbeing and mental health problems
- And there are **no waiting lists**, referrals or thresholds to access the service

Mental health support offer

A range of new, easily accessible mental health support is now available for patients in Birmingham and Solihull, based around four groups:

- 0-18 year olds in Birmingham
- 0-19 year olds in Solihull
- Over 18s in Birmingham and Solihull
- Key workers.

These services are provided by a range of local organisations, and offer emotional help, guidance and reassurance to people in Birmingham and Solihull who may be finding the current Coronavirus situation overwhelming. The web link will take you to the website and give you more information.

<https://www.birminghamandsolihullccg.nhs.uk/your-health/mental-health-support-offer>

Staying Safe Online:

We know that children will be online more as we all stay in our homes. It is really important that we ensure our children are safe online too. Here are some resources which are particularly helpful. Please check out the parental control section which gives advice to help parents put parental controls on any devices their children are using at home.

Keeping up to date with the latest apps

NSPCC's Net Aware provides simple guides for parents to the most popular social networks, app and games. Simply type in the app you wish to review in the search bar and the website will provide you with some useful information to help parents make an informed decision.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

Parental Controls

Internet Matters.org has produced excellent resources on setting up parental controls in a step by step format. Simply click on the links below to explore ways in which parents can set up parental controls on digital devices and popular social media apps. Each circular icon that is loaded represents a guide and can be accessed by simply clicking on the icon.

Parental controls on; **Smartphones and other devices**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/>

Parental controls on; **Entertainment and search engines**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/>

Parental controls on; **Broadband and mobile networks**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-controls/broadband-mobile/>

Parental controls on; **Social media**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-controls/social-media/>

Parental controls on; **Gaming console**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/>

General Information

There is also a good attachment from CEOP – this link is appropriate for primary aged pupils

