

# NEWSLETTER

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. It has been wonderful having the children back in school. I would like say a big thank you for all your support and understanding during these unprecedented times. We are blessed to have such an amazing community who all pull together and support each other.

I would like to say a special welcome to the new staff, the new children who have joined us in Reception and Nursery this year and to the children who have joined us from other schools. I am very excited about the year of learning ahead of us and I am sure your children will thoroughly enjoy their time at school this year.

## School Improvement Priorities for 2020-2021

The priorities for the School Development Plan this year are:

Recovery Curriculum:

1. Identifying and addressing gaps in knowledge and understanding.

Continuing with Objectives:

1. Mathematics – developing pupils' fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills.
2. Writing – developing pupils' spelling, punctuation, content, handwriting presentation and handwriting skills.
3. Reading - developing pupils' decoding, understanding and fluency skills.

## FOSH

I would like to thank you all for the support you have given to FOSH events. The money raised makes such a difference to the children's academic and social experiences in school.

Last year, money raised by FOSH, enabled us to purchase the following:

- Maths no Problem textbooks and workbooks
- Read Write Inc. resources
- Year 6 leaver hoodies
- Bibles for Year 6
- Easter eggs for the children
- Paid for our photocopier rentals

This year FOSH have purchased more Maths no Problem workbooks for the children. Our wish list for FOSH this year also includes:

- Purchasing more reading books for all year groups, from Nursery up to Year 6
- Hoodies for Year 6
- Bibles for Year 6
- Easter Eggs for the children
- Photocopier rental

I cannot thank you enough for your continued support to FOSH and the school.

## Drop off and Pick up

Thank you for all of your support with drop off and pick up. Please ensure that you leave as soon as you have dropped off or picked up your children. This helps with social distancing and also helps with car congestion. There are some cars being left outside of the school grounds over the morning.

Please can we ask that you move your car as soon as you drop your children off. This will enable other parents to use this space when they drop their children to school.

## Beginning and End of School Day

Please remember, if you have more than one child at school, to bring your children to school at the earliest drop off time and collect them at the latest pick up time.

## Building Works

Over the holidays we had our two Reception classes painted and they have new flooring. New furniture has also been ordered. We will share pictures with you once these have arrived.

We are delighted to let you know that we have received a grant for work on our roof which is being planned at the moment.

We hope each year to refurbish at least one classroom but will need to raise approximately £17,000; therefore, could you please ensure you pay your Building Fund donation, previously known as the Governor's Fund. Our suggested amount is £20 per child, per term, or £40 per term, per family. If you have not done so and would like to donate to the fund, please complete the school's standing order form, or you can pay via bank transfer. Please contact the school office if you need further information.

Thank you for support.

## School Uniform

The children are looking very smart in their new school uniforms. Thank you for adhering to our school uniform policy. On PE days, please ensure that your children are wearing trainers with velcro if they cannot tie their shoe laces.

## Home Learning

If your child is having to self isolate but is well, we have home learning packs that we can email to you. These are also available on the school website. If you require a hard copy please contact the school office.

Please use 'Week 1' for your child's first week of absence and, if necessary, continue to 'Week 2', for your child's second week of absence.

## Important Secondary School Transfer Information

Secondary school admissions opened on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September and the closing date for all applications is Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020. Year 6 parents must complete the online form at [www.hertsdirect.org/admissions](http://www.hertsdirect.org/admissions) and, for Catholic schools, complete their Supplementary Information Form, which you can obtain from the schools you are applying to.

Please note, all Catholic secondary schools require a Supplementary Information Form. The Certificate of Catholic Practice can be obtained from your parish priest.

If you need any help with applying to secondary school please contact our school office.

## *Autumn Prayer*

*O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.*

*As we embrace these autumn months,*

*May the earlier setting of the sun  
remind us to take time to rest.*

*May the crunch of the leaves beneath our feet  
remind us of the brevity of this earthly life.*

*May the steam of our breath in the cool air  
remind us that it is you who give us your breath of life.*

*May the scurrying of the squirrels and the migration of the birds remind us that you call us to follow your will.*

*We praise you for your goodness forever and ever. Amen.*



Many thanks for your continued support.

Have a great week.

*Mrs Smith*  
Head of School