

Newsletter

St. Anselm's Catholic Primary School



22/5/2020

Dear Parents

We have arrived at another milestone in the school year, the May half-term. It has been the most surreal time of my career and we are all finding it hard to come to terms with the school year slipping away without our children with us. By now, we would normally have been breathing a sigh of relief that SATs are over, and would be looking forward to all the excitement that the last half of the summer term brings.

Whilst I know that many of you have been enduring your own personal battles, I think it's always worth reflecting on the positives. We have continued to provide care for the children of key workers and vulnerable children, throughout this period and have felt privileged to do so. It has helped us to maintain contact with some families and has given us a sense of purpose, as well as enabling me to see most of the staff at some point and check in with them. The staff team have shown extraordinary strength and resilience, and an innate desire to do what is best for the children. This experience has also brought us further together, and built an even stronger staff team that is still able to use humour and empathy to get through the difficult times. We have been consistently touched by the kindness and support from our parents and the community and feel very blessed to be part of St Anselm's. On top of that, we felt very spoilt this week with so many treats and sentiments to celebrate 'Thank a Teacher Day'. The teachers managed to catch up with most of you this week on the phone and they found it a really positive and uplifting experience – we hope you did too. Finally, another important positive is that Tony has spent many hours decorating the corridors and cloakrooms, and, by September, the school will be very smart! Another indication of the great team we have.

Whatever the Prime Minister decides to do about the re-opening of schools, we will ensure that we are ready to receive our children back into the fold, and do our utmost to care for them. For those who remain at home, the home learning will continue and we will stay in touch. Please don't worry about the children's education. We will pick it up again when they all return and they will soon catch up. You are all doing a great job.

Dear Lord the Great Healer,

*We kneel before you, since every perfect gift comes from you.
We pray, give skill to our hands,
clear vision to our minds
and kindness and tenderness to our hearts.*

*Give us singleness of purpose,
strength to lift up a part of the burden
of our suffering fellow men,
and a true realisation of the privilege that is ours.*

*Take from us all pride and worldliness,
so that with the simple faith of a child,
we may rely only on you.*

Amen

(Mother Teresa)

Best wishes from

Hattie Elwes, and all the staff



A lovely rainbow adorns our gate, made by the children in school.

A reminder of the main points, for children returning to school on 1st June:

- Gates will open at 9:00 (Key Worker at 8:45). Y6 at the playground gate, Rec at the car park gate and Y1 at the CFC gate. Children to enter and line up on their own. Please do not be late. There are videos for the children to watch in their Google Classroom
- Bikes and scooters must be left at **your child's entry gate**, not in the usual place
- Children need to bring two water bottles, a pencil case and hand sanitiser (all named). No bags please though they can bring a disposable carrier bag on the first day. Pencil case and sanitiser will remain in school
- Bring a packed lunch for the first week
- Winter or summer uniform, and sun hat if sunny
- No parents allowed on-site
- Parents are expected to adhere to social distancing rules at the school gate, and leave as soon as possible. Siblings who are not in school must be kept at home (if at all possible)

If your child is unwell, in any way, they must be kept at home. Please do not put the staff, or other children, at increased risk.

We loved seeing all your May Fair pictures. Thank you for your donations. We have raised a staggering £2311 so far!

