**Wellbeing Award January 2021**

St Clare’s Catholic Primary School is currently working towards achievement of the Wellbeing Award.  This award provides schools with a rigorous framework for implementing a range of strategies to bring about positive change for the wellbeing and mental health of the whole school. The impact of the award on schools nationally has been overwhelmingly positive.

The award focuses on ensuring effective practice and provision is in place that promotes the emotional wellbeing and mental health of both staff and pupils and supports parents whose children are struggling.  The focus of the award is on further improving the long-term provision for dealing with well-being and embedding an ethos where mental health is regarded as the responsibility of all and is considered in all we do.

With this award, our school will be able to demonstrate its commitment to-

* Promoting mental health as part of everyday school life
* Improving the emotional wellbeing of our staff and pupils, and in turn our wider parent community
* Ensuring mental health problems are identified early and appropriate support provided
* Offering provision and interventions that matches the needs of our pupils and staff
* Raising awareness of the importance of mental health awareness
* Capturing the views of parents, pupils and teachers on mental health issues and ensuring that their views are addressed through a series of actions.

**What next?**

The week following half term (22nd February) we will begin our journey to excellence in mental health provision by launching this award to our school community.  The children will be actively involved and we will have the opportunity to undertake some lovely activities that focus on their well-being.  These activities are all aligned to what we consider to be the cornerstones of good mental health. The following week we will be seeking views on current and future provision. All parents and children of the school will be invited to complete a survey. This will determine what future actions we need to undertake to improve provision.  We will keep parents, children and the wider school community updated on our actions as we progress.

**Why now when schools are closed?**

At a time when the effects of lockdown is impacting on everyone's emotions and mental health, we need to ensure that when schools return we are able to offer families and teachers guidance to support our school community.

For more information on the Wellbeing Award please see <https://www.awardplace.co.uk/award/was>.  Keep following us on Twitter to see the activities we will be doing week commencing 22nd February.