



May 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

A huge welcome back to school for the summer term. I do hope you enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend and now like us, are looking forward to the summer term ahead. It is going to be a busy one; this term we see pupils across Key Stage 2 in the last stages of preparation before they make their First Holy Communion in June; pupils are preparing for exams and transition into the next year group and secondary school.

Week commencing 9th May, our Year 6 pupils sit their KS2 SAT tests. I congratulate them on their hardworking and totally committed attitude to their learning. They are determined to do well. Our best wishes go to all our year 6 pupils.

I want to thank Year 6 parents for your continued support. Please keep the year group in your thoughts and prayers during their SATs and indeed the summer term as they prepare for Key Stage 3.

As mentioned earlier, pupils across school are preparing to make their first Holy Communion. I met with them to discuss the programme and they were telling me how much they are enjoying the catechist meetings: they said they enjoy the different parts of the Bible, they enjoying praying together and they have fun as well as learning about Jesus. Many of them were telling me that they are preparing in other churches/parishes and they are enjoying this experience too. A very big thank you to the parish catechists supporting our pupils with the programme. We pray for all families and pupils as they continue the final preparations for this special sacrament.

This week and next week there are two teaching and learning themes incorporated into our curriculum planning. The first is National Deaf Awareness

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week beginning 2nd May for a week where learning will include sign language as part of the theme and from 9th May, the focus will be National Mental Health Week. The theme is titled 'Loneliness'. Our PSHE scheme 'Jigsaw' will also link with the teaching of both themes.

We have organised 'Stop Motion Animation' Workshops in association with Teesside University to work in school this week with our year 5 pupils. Year 5S session is May 3rd and Year 5W is 5th May.

The workshop will teach the year group about being an animator, discuss pixilated animations and the equipment animators use to add sound and pictures. From here the pupils will design their own scene depending on their chosen story and work as a team to produce their own character, titles and credits. At the end of the session, the groups will watch all the films.

There is a chance to go to Teesside University in a few weeks' time to celebrate their achievements but more details will be sent out once we are informed by the university.

Year group summer Curriculum Newsletters will be sent out on Friday 6th May to keep you informed of teaching and learning, events and updates for the summer term. Please look out for this email; they will also be displayed in class pages on the website.

As we head into the final term, please be reminded of Leave of absence during term time- the notice below- plus a reminder regarding parking.

[LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR ANNUAL HOLIDAY The Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006](#)

Amendments to the 2006 Regulations remove references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Headteachers should determine the number of days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.

Please do not book your holiday during term time or until you have requested authorisation.

I know that the busy location of our school makes parking difficult at dropping

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off and pick up times of the day. Can I remind you that we have secured permission from the Little Theatre therefore, as always, the Curial Office car park must not be used. Please could parents respect the local resident's parking spaces when parking in the vicinity of the school.

For Nursery parents only, and in the interests of health and safety, please be reminded that when dropping off or collecting children from Nursery that you use the footpath through the small gate to enter Nursery. To keep your child safe, please do not walk through the school car park. Thanking you in advance.

Some of our pupils have enjoyed 'Afternoon Tea' on May 3rd and are excited to tell their peers about the occasion. It was lovely for Mr Joyeux and I to chat with the pupils whilst enjoying delicious cakes. Looking forward to the next 'tea' with other pupils in school.

Please can you keep in your prayers all our families who this academic year have experienced and are still experiencing bereavement, sickness and sadness in their lives. Thinking of you all-you are constantly in our thoughts.

As always thank you for your support- much appreciated.

Best wishes,
Mrs M.D. Brown
Executive Leader and Headteacher

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