



ST PAULINUS
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 12th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we end the final week of this turbulent half term, we would just like to say thank you for all of your hard work and support during this time. Everyone has been stretched over the past six weeks and we are incredibly grateful for the efforts that have gone into supporting our Remote Learning. The pupils have been amazing and we are incredibly proud of them all.

Now, the time has arrived for some moments to pause. As a School, we have decided not to set any work over the half term break as we feel our children (and parents) need a rest. Next week, marks the beginning of the Season of Lent, with Ash Wednesday. This time, leading up to Easter, allows us all to reflect and continue to hope towards better days. It is the time when Christians think about what they can do to become closer to God; traditionally, through fasting, prayer and almsgiving. As a family, you may want to think about creating Lenten promises, by proposing ideas that you could work on together to become closer to God. Asking your child to think about helping out with chores, being a more caring sibling or even promising to set aside time each day to God in quiet reflection are some of the different types of things that we can try to do during Lent.

Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust's chaplaincy team have created some lovely resources for families to use during Lent. These weekly family prayer resources can be found by clicking on the link:

<https://npcat.org.uk/family-prayer/>

Our tribute to Captain Sir Tom Moore has brought to mind the kindness and generosity of our St. Paulinus community. It has been very humbling to see photographs of the pupils completing their laps in various outdoor places. In this tribute, we are aiming to raise funds to support our local hospital, James Cook University Hospital. To date, we have raised £126.50 which is absolutely fantastic. Thank you so much for your kind donations. Donations can be made, via ParentPay, until **Tuesday 24th February**. If your family would like to continue with our challenge of 'Five Laps for Five Days' over half term, we would love to see any photographs. These can be uploaded to your child's Google Classroom account. By uploading a photo of your child on their Google Classroom account, we will accept your permission to post the image on one of our Social Media platforms.

Our PTFA organised a super treat for the children on Wednesday 10th February 2021. Chris the Dino Ranger and Mark Thompson's Spectacular Science Show were a wonderful treat for the children as a way to say thank you for all of their hard work this half term. The PTFA would like to draw your attention to a super half term opportunity. Howdens Kids Kitchens Competition aims to keep the children both entertained and helps to raise valuable funds for our school and for the PTFA, with the chance to win £250. The link for this exciting competition is:

<https://www.howdens.com/howdens-kids-kitchens-competition>

Working together to be the best we can

Executive Headteacher: Mr S Geaves Head of School: Mrs R Bircham

St Paulinus Catholic Primary School, The Avenue, Guisborough, Redcar and Cleveland, TS14 8DN

Tel: 01287 637978 | Email: enquiries@stpaulinus.npcat.org.uk | Website: stpaulinus.npcat.org.uk

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HALF TERM EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please can we remind you of emergency contact details during the half term break. These are listed on our School website home page which you can find by clicking here:

<https://stpaulinus.npcat.org.uk/>

Please read the procedures below carefully with regards to positive cases of COVID 19 for **PUPILS WHO HAVE BEEN IN SCHOOL:**

What to do if your child develops symptoms AND tests positive with 48 hours of being in School (Up to and including Sunday 14th February) AND then tests positive

For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (up to and including Sunday 14th February 2021) school should be contacted to assist in NHS Test and Trace.

- Parents should contact school through the following email address: enquiries@stpaulinus.npcat.org.uk

What to do if your child develops symptoms AND tests positive after Sunday 14th February

If your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school (after Sunday 14th February), the school should NOT be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Please be aware the symptoms are:

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 coughing episodes in 24 hours
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Parents should not contact school after Monday 15th February until Sunday 21st February 2021. If you have any queries then please contact the local public health team. Contact details can be found at www.gov.uk/health-protection-team.

If you need to inform the school of a positive test either email enquiries@stpaulinus.npcat.org.uk Or telephone **07826 134504**. If no-one answers this number please try **07425 099402**. The first number and emails will be checked by Mr Geaves periodically (between 10am and 12 noon) and the second number by Mrs Bircham. We will also be available on Sunday 21st February 2021 before we return to school in case of any positive cases.

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School will reopen to the children of critical workers and vulnerable children on **Monday 22nd February 2021**. As stated in Government guidance, during this period of national lockdown, schools and colleges should only allow vulnerable children and the children of critical workers to attend school.

The government has stated that schools have not suddenly become unsafe but limiting the number of children and students who attend them is essential to curb the escalating cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) throughout the country and prevent the NHS from being overwhelmed.

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, **but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.**

As has always been the case throughout the fight against COVID, the safety of our pupils and staff is our first priority and we feel that we have always done, and continue to do, everything possible to prevent the spread and reduce transmission between homes and families. The number of pupils currently attending school is concerning and we would ask you to be responsible and, if it is at all possible, to try and find an alternative that would be safer for yourself and your child.

Please also consider the following in line with government advice:

- Can you work from home?
- Can you find alternative times to work outside of the school day?
- Do you have other family members who are not in a vulnerable category and can care for your child which will support social distancing for children?
- Do you need childcare every day? Only use the provision when you really need to.

Finally, we hope that this forthcoming week brings you peace, rest and happiness. As Pope Francis tells us, "Rest is so necessary for the health of our minds and bodies, and often so difficult to achieve due to the many demands placed on us. But rest is also essential for our spiritual health, so that we can hear God's voice and understand what he asks of us."

Thank you, once again, for your support. We are here should you need any support or advice with how your child is getting on. We look forward to our journey towards Easter, with the next half term commencing on Monday 22nd February 2021.

Love and best wishes,

Mr Geaves
Executive Head

Mrs Bircham
Head of School

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