



ALL SAINTS

CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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Dear parent,

I hope that this letter finds both you and your family in good health. I hope that over the past three weeks, since the beginning of this term, that your child and your family as a whole have felt supported by the efforts of the staff at school. I fully appreciate that this is an incredibly difficult time for families and I want to assure you that we are doing our level best to teach your child to an extremely high standard, whilst also providing additional extra-curricular activities to help them maintain a positive attitude.

New Assembly Time

Assemblies are a core part of school life as they provide a time to pause and reflect upon the teachings of Christ. Up until now, these have been year group assemblies taking place in the mornings, however we have decided to change this. From now on, assemblies will take place to the whole school and will be led initially by myself and also members of the Senior Leadership Team. This week, I will be reflecting with students about the situation we are currently facing, as well as walking the school live to show students the current progress on our build project. If you would like to watch with your child, then you are more than welcome.

Virtual Teaching/Written work

At present our core teaching offer is within Microsoft Teams where students have at least three sessions which are led by teaching staff. The sessions are supported by other members of the same subject team who answer questions in the 'Chat' box. Our teaching staff structure these lessons so that your child receives the delivery of content as well as an opportunity to sit and work through the tasks that are set. These tasks should, on the whole be completed on paper, in their subject exercise books. I have enclosed with this letter an additional exercise book should your child need this. In addition, some students have been selected to participate in small group tutorials, these students have been identified by teaching staff. If you feel that your child could benefit from these tutorials, please let the assigned member of staff know in your weekly calls.

Whilst our students have become highly confident users of Microsoft Teams, we appreciate that it can become overwhelming for first time users, particularly parents who want to engage in their child's remote education. As such, we are offering bespoke Microsoft Teams training for parents who want to develop their skills in the programme to effectively assist their children at home. For more information, to register your interest or book a slot, please visit the school website.

Feedback - OneNote

We are now using OneNote to review the work students are doing as well as providing feedback as to how they can improve. OneNote integrates into Microsoft Teams or works as a standalone app. your child will need to use their phone/tablet or laptop to photograph their work and add it to the relevant page in OneNote. This will allow our teaching staff to provide feedback and support.

Pastoral Support

An assigned member of staff contacts you via the phone each week to check-in as to how your child is getting on, as well as to offer further support you feel you may need. We have put this system in place across the school to hear how our families are coping during this time and also ascertain if there is any educational support your child needs. Please ensure you speak to the assigned member of staff and we will do our level best to support you.

Extra-Curricular

We fully understand that online learning is not the best most ideal situation for any child, including your child. As a result, we are rolling out our extra-curricular provision so that all students can participate in activities that exist outside of the normal school curriculum. Please encourage your child to engage with the activities as they vary in range to appeal to all, and allow us to develop new skills at this time. Our weekly podcast 'Saintscast' is made available via Teams every Friday afternoon, and is a great listen for the whole family, including segments from students and staff. The current extra-curricular programme is available to view via the school website.

Laptops

Like in the first lockdown, we have worked hard to bring additional funds into the school to further support our efforts. We have been lucky enough to receive additional funding from RBKC, the Kensington Foundation and the Catholic Children's Society. Since January, we have purchased 74 additional laptops and have already distributed many of these to students to support them in their learning. We have prioritised supporting students who didn't have access to any device. We are still eagerly awaiting the laptops and devices promised by the Government, at which point we will roll out our second phase of distribution.

Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals you should be now have received two email vouchers, one from All Saints for use in Sainsbury's and one from the Department for Education partner Edenred for use in the supermarket of your choice. Both vouchers are for £30 and together cover the first four weeks of this term. A further Edenred voucher will come out the first week of February to cover the final two weeks of this half term. If you have any queries on usage, access issues, or if you have not received the expected emails please contact us on support@allsaintscc.org.uk and our admin team will assist you.

School Build

Works have begun on the new Music and Performing Arts building and it has been exciting to see so much happen in such a short space of time. I am currently working with the project management team and the contractors to bring forward the refurbishment works that were earmarked for the summer, so that when your child returns to school, further improvements will have been made to the school site. Furthermore, the refurbishments to the south block toilets have now been completed as well as the addition of a new changing room.

Finally, thank you for being so supportive of the school and the staff during this time. I am so grateful to those of you who have sent messages in to school, I share them with staff at our morning 'virtual' meetings and they really do make a difference.

God bless,



Mr A O'Neill
Headteacher