



St. Michael's R.C. Primary School

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enquiries@st-michaels.school

www.st-michaels.school

Headteacher: Mrs C Chapman

27th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your family are safe and well. I want to personally thank you all for your support during this uncertain time.

Reopening of St Michael's

I am sure you know that the Prime Minister's intention is to get our children back to school in the summer term. St Michael's continues to offer childcare for a small group of pupils who are children of key workers. Whilst the government have set an aspirational date of 1st June for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, St Michael's will not be opening for these year groups on 1st June. Planning for pupils' return is a complex matter. In the coming weeks leaders will continue to work tirelessly to ensure plans are robust. I will share a date for return and the plans for reopening with you in advance. It is frustrating that I am unable to provide you with a more definite plan at this time. Please be assured that once we have confirmation and clarity from the government, we will be in touch about the way forward.

Home Learning

Well done to everyone who is completing our home learning activities. The 'Home Learning' section of the school website can be accessed at www.st-michaels.school. On there you will find a weekly home learning activity document for each year group. If you would like answer sheets, please email enquiries@st-michaels.school and they will be emailed to you. Under the 'Home Learning' section, you will also see a number of fun and interactive videos created by the staff of St Michael's. Please encourage your child to have a look and take part. Many of you have been using the White Rose maths resources and have found them very useful. As a school, we have now subscribed to this resource so you can continue to access these at home. The White Rose resources will be uploaded to the school website on Friday.

May- The Month of Mary

Christians devote the month of May to Mary, the Mother of Jesus. May is a month where spring is at the height of its beauty. Spring is also connected with nature renewing itself. In her way, Mary gave new life to the world when she gave birth to Jesus Christ. On our school website and Facebook page you will find a short video of reflection and prayer devoted to Mary.

St Michael's Garden of Hope

At St Michael's, we know how important it is for our children to find quiet and calm to allow for reflection and prayer. We have redesigned an area of our school grounds to create a Garden of Hope.

St Michael's Garden of Hope will offer enrichment of many aspects of learning, spirituality and community life. We want our prayer garden to represent our children and have a range of features



illustrating elements that are important to the school community. Next week, we will be asking our pupils to design a pebble to go in or garden. It would be lovely to see our pupils participating in this latest project. Here are some of the fantastic designs created by the children who are currently attending school.



Virtual Choir- ‘Standing Together’

In the coming weeks, we are also going to create a music video of all of your wonderful voices, singing a song of hope. We want your child to learn this song and practise it using the video that Miss Hudson will share with you on Friday. The song we are using is called ‘Standing Together’ and was written for the Holocaust Memorial Day by Fiona Lander. We would then like you to record yourself singing as much of it as possible and send it to us. The video that Miss Hudson will be sharing with you on Friday will teach you the song and give you more information on this exciting project. Please email your videos in small sections (Verse 1/ Chorus/ Verse 2/ Chorus/ Bridge/ Final chorus) to enquiries@st-michaels.school by Friday 5th June 2020.

Communication

Our wonderful pupils are such a miss in our school and our staff have loved their telephone conversations with them. We care deeply about you and your family and want to help and support in any way we can. Our school office is currently closed so if you need to contact school, please email enquiries@st-michaels.school or telephone 07508362962.

Positivity Campaign #OneElswick

If you have Facebook, then please follow our school page ‘St Michael’s RC Primary School’. Facebook is updated regularly and is a great way to stay in touch. Our positivity campaign #OneElswick was launched at the beginning of school closures and has brought our school community together in such a difficult time. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our projects by sharing videos and photographs with us. All school information, updates as well our One Elswick projects can also be found on our school website.

Once again- thank you for all that you are doing and for the support you are showing to each other and to our school. I will update you with our plans for reopening as soon as I am able to.

Stay safe,

Yours Sincerely

Mrs C Chapman
Headteacher