



To follow Jesus' footsteps, caring for each other when we work, play and pray.

Newsletter No.2

Friday 18th September 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the second newsletter of the new academic year. It has been wonderful to see all the children settle so well into the new normal and we have been extremely impressed with Foundation Year, who have done a fantastic job of coming into school, every day, with big smiles on their faces!

Congratulations to last week's award winner. The awards were as follows:

Key Stage Two

The Tidiness Award	Y4I	Lining Up award	Y4F
Lunchtime Behaviour Award	Y3	The Attendance Award	Y5Ga with 98%

This week's award winner. The awards are as follows:

Key Stage Two

The Tidiness Award	Y2M	Lining Up award	Y1E
Lunchtime Behaviour Award	Y1L	The Attendance Award	FYW with 97%

Virtues

This half term we are concentrating on being 'Curious and Active'. As a school we are looking to help our children grow by leading them to be curious about the universe and all human activity, and to take increasing responsibility for their own learning, and by providing opportunities for them to be active in the life of the school, the Church, and the wider community.

Please discuss this with your children at home; highlighting times when you experience or show these virtues.

Online payments via ParentMail

An easier way for you to pay for school dinners!

From 1st September we will be using Online Payments on ParentMail – an online payment service which allows you to pay for school dinners quickly and easily on your smartphone, tablet or computer. You will be able to top up your dinner money account electronically, using credit or debit cards as well as PayPal and PayPoint and will receive automatic reminders when your balance is running low. If you have an Android or Apple smartphone, we would highly recommend you download the free ParentMail App so that you can make easy, online payments on the go. To do this, simply search for "ParentMail" in your App store. Please note, your bank statement will display either the school name or ParentMail, dependent on your payment method. If you need any additional information or assistance, please use the help site: www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/

Please see the frequently asked questions at the end of this newsletter for more information.

Transfer to Secondary School

The closing date for applications to be submitted to the Local Authority for those children transferring to secondary school in September 2021 is Thursday 31 October 2020.

Reading Books and Homework (Y1-6)

Reading books and homework will be sent home with children on a Monday and are to be returned to school on a Friday. In following guidelines, this will allow for a 72-hour quarantine period between home and school.

Nut Free School

Please can we politely remind all families that school is a **nut free zone**, we have a number of children with severe nut allergies so it is vital nuts are **not** brought onto the school site. Products such as Nutella, peanut butter or any cereal/snack bars containing nuts are strictly not allowed. Thank you for your support on this matter.





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Parents Evening

Due to current restrictions, with parents unable to enter the school building, Parents Evening will take place via Zoom this Autumn Term. You will still be able to sign up for your slot in the normal way via ParentMail, and closer to the time a link will then be sent to you which will allow you access to meet with your child's class teacher. To allow for buffer times between slots, there will be two evenings available, **Tuesday 13th October or Thursday 15th October**. If you are unable to access a computer, tablet or phone for the Zoom meeting, please contact the school office and they will organise for a telephone meeting (on the dates mentioned). Thank you for your understanding and support with this.

CAFOD Brighten Up This Harvest

To support children globally, we are going to **Brighten Up This Harvest** by fundraising to support communities in deprived parts of the world. All money raised will support CAFOD to provide seeds and training to farmers, teaching people to build greenhouses to grow produce that isn't destroyed by the weather. To do this we are going to have a non-uniform day and see which classroom has the brightest dressed children on Friday 9th October 2020. The children are encouraged to wear as many colours as they can on this day and donate some of their small change to help children like themselves globally. Please make all donations through the new payment system on ParentMail. Thank you.

COVID-19 Guidance

Last week you were sent, via ParentMail, a document giving clear information on how to respond to any concerns you have about COVID-19. The guidance explains what course of action you should take if you have any concerns about your child's health. Please ensure you read the document carefully, it has also been added to the end of this newsletter. If you have any worries, please contact the school office. Can we also take this opportunity to remind all parents and children that following government guidelines, **all families should be practising social distancing at the end of the school day, as well as wearing a face mask at both drop off and collection. This is essential for the safety and well being of all in the school community.**

Behaviour at the end of the school day

Can we please remind parents that once the children have been released back into your care, it is your responsibility to ensure the children wait sensibly for their siblings. We have had a number of incidents occur in which children have been behaving poorly and staff have had to speak to them. Children are NOT allowed on the trim trail or climbing wall for the safety of all, although we have put barrier tape around all the play equipment some children have been ignoring this and climbing onto the equipment and even pulling the barrier tape off. This behaviour is not acceptable. Thank you to the majority of parents who are supporting us with this.

Cultural Capital for September

Musician of the Month— Johann Sebastian Bach

Artist of the Month— Barbara Hepworth

Word of the Month- Considerate

Inspirational Person of the Month— Muhammad Ali



Key Dates for your Diary





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Dates for your diary October

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 13 th October	3.30-6.00pm	Parents Evening Part 1
Thursday 15 th October	3.30-6.00pm	Parents Evening Part 2
Friday 9 th October	All Day	Children to wear their own clothes for Brighten Up This Harvest (CAFOD)

Year 4 Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

We are currently in discussions with Fr Michael with regards to preparing the children to receive both of these sacraments this Autumn term. Obviously there will be limits to the numbers of attendees allowed due to the current pandemic restrictions. As soon as we have dates, times and details we will be writing to you.



**Lord, you are always generous and kind,
Fill us with the generosity of your love
and make us more understanding.
Amen**

Yours sincerely,

G M O'Hara
Executive Principal

Mrs N Hill
Acting Head of School

Mrs L Chambers
Acting Vice Principal





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Frequently Asked Questions (Online Payments for ParentMail)

How do I connect to more than one child at my school?

Your school will have connected your account to both or all of your children when they set up your ParentMail account, so all you need to do is register and you will be connected to all your children at the same school.

If you have children at other schools using ParentMail, you will receive an email from them asking you to 'Manage your connections' where you will simply need to connect to the new school. Again, if you have multiple children at this school you will only need to connect once.

How do I top up my child's dinner money account?

Please click into the Payments tab > Shop > 'Accounts'. Below 'Accounts' you will be able to find your child's name listed.

If you have more than one child at different schools, they will also be listed. Once you have selected who you need to top up for, you can type in an amount to top up.

Please remember that this will only add money to the account, this is not for the number of meals you would like.

When you are in the Checkout section, you will be able to choose a payment method. The school may have set a minimum top up amount; if you attempt to top up less than this amount, you will see an error message.

Where can I see my child's recent lunch transactions?

On your computer

From your main menu, please click into Payment History > Cashless Accounting. Here you can then select the statement you wish to view. This will list the transactions that have been made by your child. For further information, you can select a transaction by clicking into this. If you see 'meal' here, this means the school tills aren't sending ParentMail details of individual items that have been purchased on each transaction. If the school tills do provide this information, you will see details of what your child has purchased here.

On the Android App

Open the ParentMail App, please click into Payments > Shop > Top Up > History. This will show you a list of all actions (top ups, refunds, meals taken) related to that balance. If you see 'meal' here, this means the school tills aren't sending ParentMail details of the individual items that have been purchased on each transaction. If the school tills do provide this information, you will see details of what your child has purchased here.

On the iOS App

Open the ParentMail App, please click into Payments > History > Dinners > Select an account > Select a statement by month. This will show you a list of all actions (top ups, refunds, meals taken) related to that balance. If you see 'meal' here, this means the school tills aren't sending ParentMail details of the individual items that have been purchased on each transaction. If the school tills do provide this information, you will see details of what your child has purchased here.

Why am I receiving an error message advising me that I cannot purchase more than one of this item?

If you get an error message stating that you can only purchase one of this item, please click 'OK' and then go to your Basket, where you will find the item already added. You can either remove the item by changing the quantity to '0' or you can continue to proceed with the purchase.

My child is entitled to free school meals, so why have I received a reminder about their balance?

This is an automatic message sent out when a child is added to a dinner register. If your child is entitled to free schoolmeals then please feel free to disregard the reminder and you will not need to proceed and top up their dinner account.

How do I get a refund?

If you need to get a refund for an item, or a Dinner Money balance for whatever reason, you will need to contact your school to discuss this. Please contact them directly for assistance.



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Catholic Senior Executive Leader (CSEL): Mr J.B. Farrell

Company House Registered No. 08706247





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Covid-19 related pupil absence

A quick reference guide for parents and staff (September 2020)

Please follow the advice below for your child and family.

What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
...my child has Covid-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school - Contact school to inform us - Self-isolate the whole household - Get a test <p>Inform the school immediately about the test result</p>	...the test comes back negative or a period of 10 days has passed since the symptoms started, and the child feels well.
...my child tests positive for Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days). - Self-isolate the whole household. 	...10 days have passed since symptoms began, even if they still have a cough or loss of taste/smell. <i>(These symptoms can last for several weeks.)</i> AND the child feels well.
...my child tests negative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact school to inform us. - Discuss when your child can come back (same day/next day). 	...the test comes back negative.
...my child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Ring on each day of illness. 	...after 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea (as per attendance policy)
...someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Self-isolate the whole household. - Household member to get a test. - Inform school immediately about test result. 	...the test comes back negative.
...someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days). - Self-isolate the whole household. 	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.
...NHS test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days). 	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.
...NHS test and trace has identified a household member (other than my child) as a close contact of somebody with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The household member must self-isolate for 14 days. - Child can continue to attend school. 	...child can continue to attend school



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symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.		
...a sibling attending another school has been sent home to self-isolate due to there being a positive case in their school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sibling must self-isolate for 14 days. - SS Mary & John Catholic Primary School child(ren) can continue to attend. 	...child can continue to attend school
...my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that is NOT on the exempt list of countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If returning from a destination where quarantine is needed*: - minimum of 14 days' self-isolation for all those who travelled. - contact school to inform us you are back in the country and we will agree an earliest date for possible return to school. - Self-isolate the whole household. - *Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) – for up to date travel information 	...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
...my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that IS on the exempt list of countries.	<p>If returning from a destination where quarantine is NOT needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check the current Exempt countries and territories list to confirm the country you have travelled from or through is on the exempt list. - Ring school to inform us you have returned to the UK and agree a return date to school. 	...you have informed the office of your return to the UK (<i>the office will ask you a few questions about your travel</i>).
...I have travelled from a country that requires us to quarantine (but my child didn't travel).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As long as you do not have / have not had symptoms in the last 14 days, your child can continue to attend school. - The person who has travelled MUST NOT leave the house, including to do pick-ups and drop offs (<i>please contact school if you need support getting your child to school</i>). 	...child can continue to attend school
...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again. 	<p>...school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again.</p> <p>...you receive medical advice that your child may return to school.</p>
...my child's bubble is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child must not come to school. - Support your child at home with remote education provided by your school. - Your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days. - Other siblings may continue to attend school. 	...school inform you that the bubble will be reopened.
...I am unable to get a test for someone in the household who has symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If you are not able to get a test in the first 5 days of having symptoms, your child and anyone they live with must stay at home and 	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.



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	<i>self-isolate for 14 days. Anyone in your support bubble must also stay at home.</i>	
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