

# THE ST CHARLES' COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

*"Bring Forth Christ"*



**Determination Friendship Good Manners Respect Responsibility**

## **2019/2020 ACADEMIC YEAR**

School will close next Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July for the summer holidays. This hasn't been a normal academic year by any standards. It started off that way and we start to make some fantastic progress in certain areas of our school. We also had our visit from OFSTED in January which just highlighted the fantastic children, staff and community we have here at St. Charles'. Since our visit from OFSTED, Covid-19 has taken hold and we have been in very unfamiliar territory.

All staff have adjusted and worked tirelessly to adopt the new way of working. Staff have been supporting children with work to do at home, and through Dojo and phone calls. We have also made efforts to keep our school community alive through the various videos and themed weeks we have held. It has great having more children in school in recent weeks and we are looking forward to welcoming children from Years 2 – 5 into school next week for their visits (you should have received a confirmation e-mail around this today).

Things certainly haven't been perfect. We have tried our best given the situation we faced, and we thank you for your co-operation. We hope that from 2<sup>nd</sup> September, the plans we have put in place to reopen will go ahead and we are not faced with a local lockdown given our close proximity to the situations within Blackburn with Darwen and Pendle at the minute.

If you need to get in touch with school for any reason during the summer holidays, there is an Emergency Contact Form on the frontpage of our school website ([www.st-charles.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.st-charles.lancs.sch.uk)). If you complete this form, I receive a notification and will make contact as soon as possible. Staff will also be in school at various points during the holidays too as we prepare for the return of all our children.

I've included the information I circulated last week around the initial plans for September, including the dropping off /collection of children from Breakfast Club and After School Club. I would also like to hear from parents about any aspects of the plan you have questions around as well as any suggestions for improvement you may have. If you are interested in speaking with me about this, I'm planning to hold a Zoom meeting on Monday morning at 10:00am. To participate, please email me at: [head@st-charles.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-charles.lancs.sch.uk) and I'll send you the link to the meeting. If you are unable to attend this, please email me your queries or ring the school office and I'll be more than happy to speak with you.

Finally, in planning for September, I would like to announce that yesterday we appointed Miss Nina Ireland to the post of Year 4 teacher starting in September. Miss Ireland is a very experienced teacher who comes highly recommended, and will be a fantastic addition to our wonderful school family here at St. Charles'. She has a real passion for teaching. She will be in school next week to meet her new class during their visits. I'm sure you'll all make her feel very welcome.

## **REPORTS**

End of Year reports have been written and are ready to be sent home. The children in school today have been given theirs. Any children attending school next week will receive theirs through class.

For those children who aren't expected in school they can be collected from the school office anytime between 08.30am – 4.00pm until next Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020. If you want to collect it, please ring the office when you arrive at the Knowles St school gate and it will be brought out to you.

## **LOCKDOWN CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS**

Many thanks to those parents who have requested a Lockdown Class Photograph. These have now been printed and are ready to be collected from school using the same arrangements as for reports. If your child is in school next week, a copy will be given to them then.

# SEPTEMBER 2020

## UPDATED OUTLINE – A FINAL PLAN WILL BE SENT OUT NEXT WEEK FOLLOWING PARENTAL CONSULTATION

School will open, as planned, on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 to our children in Year 1 – Year 6. On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, our new Reception children will start their taster days which have already been discussed with Mrs Parkinson.

When the children are in school, they will be organised into 3 groups (the Government like to use the term 'bubbles' when referring to these). The 3 groups have been designed around the facilities we have in school. Group 1 is our Reception and Year 1 classes who will share use of the infant yard. Group 2 is our Year 2 and Year 4 classes who will be based in the downstairs classrooms at the other end of school. Our Year 4 class in September (currently Year 3) will remain in their current classroom due to Health and Safety reasons. These two classes will share the junior yard at breaktime and lunchtime and will have use of the downstairs toilets. Group 3 will be made up of our Year 3, 5 and 6 classes who will be based in the upstairs classrooms. Again, these classes will share the junior yard at a different time to Group 2 and will use the upstairs toilet facilities.

A one-way system will be introduced around school for the dropping off and collection of children. We understand it may be frustrating to walk around the school to drop off and collect your child/ren but we must implement this system to ensure the safety of all members of our school community. Please don't ask staff if you can just 'nip' through or allow your child/ren to enter as 'nobody is coming the other way' as this will put individuals in a difficult position. This won't be forever so please work with us until we can relax these restrictions.

Children who are in Group 1 will enter the school grounds by the gate next to the main church entrance on Station Road. They will walk along the side of church towards their classrooms. Parents will then exit through the black infant gates onto Knowles Street. Groups 2 and 3 will enter the school grounds by the main entrance gate on Knowles Street where they will walk down past the main office to the junior yard. Year 2 will enter through the ramp into Year 2 and Year 4 will enter through the door next to After School Club. Group 3 will enter through the door under the stairs and head upstairs to their classrooms. **All children will go straight into school as soon as they are dropped off.** Parents will exit through the gate on St. Charles' Road.

At the end of the day, children will be collected as follows; Group 1 will be collected from the infant yard. The junior yard will be split up into different sections for the different year groups. Year 2 will be collected from the bottom 1/3 of the yard, Year 3 from the middle 1/3 and Years 5 and 6 can be collected from the top 1/3 of the yard or can leave the school grounds to meet parents/guardians there. Year 4 will be collected from the area outside After School Club. We request parents follow Government social distancing guidelines when they collect their child.

Breakfast Club and After School Club will resume in September with children being kept together depending upon the groups they are in. We are going to have to revise booking procedures for these as we need to know definite numbers attending in advance. ParentPay will be the main system for booking places for both of these clubs and payment needs to be received in advance. Breakfast Club and After School Club bookings need to be secured by midnight on Thursday the week before your child is attending. Numbers attending will be limited and more information, including a booking form, will be issued next week to gauge interest. As always, we will try to accommodate any parents who book late but we have to be strict on the number of children attending due to the current situation facing us all. Parents who turn up on the day to drop their children off at breakfast club may be turned away if there is no room. Please work with us and book early.

When dropping children off for Breakfast Club, the same entrance system as children in Reception and KS1 will be used (i.e. enter through the gate next to the church entrance). A member of staff will greet the children at the green gate and then they will proceed down past Reception classroom and into the hall. From 8:10am, all staff will be in the hall and parents are asked to walk down to the hall and wait until their child is let into school.

When collecting your child from After School Club, please enter school through the usual entrance on St. Charles' Road and then approach the door to the hall. A member of staff will then bring your child to the door.

If you would like to comment or discuss any aspect of this proposed plan with me, please join me at 10:00am on Monday morning via Zoom (e-mail [head@st-charles.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-charles.lancs.sch.uk)) or phone the school office and request to speak with me.

A final plan will be e-mailed out next week.

# **BIKEABILITY INFORMATION SHARED WITH SCHOOL**

## **YEAR 5/6**

Unfortunately owing to current Covid 19 restrictions and school closure many pupils (especially Year 6) have missed out on their Bikeability cycle training.

I am delighted to invite any Year 5, 6 or 7 pupils to our free summer holiday sessions. Level 1 & 2 will be delivered together with Level 1 first in the morning followed immediately by Level 2 which will run over 2 consecutive days. On the 2nd afternoon Level 3 will be on offer to those wishing to advance.

Your own equipment will be required; we are not able to lend any equipment and your cycle must be in working order. This year, owing to Covid conditions we are not able to handle equipment.

We are struggling to confirm the exact locations around the county, again owing to Covid restrictions only just being lifted. I need to ask you to follow either of these 2 links for a more up to date invitation:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/go-velo-holiday-sessions-20129268401> web page which has a link to all courses for adults and children or <https://www.govelo.co.uk/book-a-course/>

There is no cost for any of this training. All instructors are First Aid qualified and are DBS (CRB) checked.

## **RECEPTION/KS1**

Unfortunately, owing to current Covid 19 restrictions and school closure many pupils have missed out on the opportunity to learn to ride a bike through the training we usually invite into school.

I am delighted to invite any non-riders to our free summer holiday sessions. We will provide all the necessary equipment which will be cleaned by our team. Parents will be asked to sanitise with our wipes before your child uses the equipment.

These sessions will be approximately 2 hours and parents must remain with their child to assist learning as our instructors will need to keep as socially distant as possible.

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<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/go-velo-holiday-sessions-20129268401> web page which has a link to all course for adults and children or <https://www.govelo.co.uk/book-a-course/>

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## **MESSAGE FROM SALFORD DIOCESE - Eucharistic Journey**

Bishop John is keen to encourage families to find simple ways of praying together at home. David Wells, who many of you know, has recorded a message in which he further develops the Bishop's message with some practical suggestions, which you can listen to [here](#).

I appreciate the imaginative ways that are being found to keep some form of catechises going. I know of schools and parishes where the catechists have kept in touch with families by phone, or where resources have been emailed or made available online. Masses, talks and children's liturgy resources have also been shown online. It would be good to hear examples of other initiatives that we could share. Please do encourage the first communion families to access the [videos](#) on the diocesan website.

It is unlikely that large gatherings in church, of the size of many First Communion celebrations, will be allowed in the near future. You may wish to reflect on how the First Communion Masses can be safely celebrated in the autumn. Further guidance from the Department for Formation will be issued as the situation changes.

Fr Paul Daly  
Episcopal Vicar for Formation

# SCARLETT (Y1) IS RAISING MONEY FOR NICU

## *A message from Scarlett's mum...*

So this summer Scarlett's decided that she is going to learn how to ride her bike, she's always been nervous and never let me take her stabilisers off before. Since the arrival of our friend's beautiful baby Finn at 29 weeks, we thought of asking for sponsors to raise money for NICU who are doing a wonderful job of caring for Finn and our friends ❤️ This has made Scarlett more determined to learn how to ride her bike. Progress photos/videos will be posted to keep people updated on how she gets on. This will be a big challenge for her as she's always been scared, she's had lessons in school before but still never progressed from there due to nerves. So I'm hoping this is her time as she's desperate to do it 🤞❤️ and all in a good cause to raise a little bit for NICU. If anyone would sponsor Scarlett she would be very grateful 😊

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/scarlett-knowles-learns-how-to-ride-a-bike?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=p\\_cf+share-flow-1](https://www.gofundme.com/f/scarlett-knowles-learns-how-to-ride-a-bike?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1)

## FINAL FEW DAYS

Next week, we are inviting our Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 classes back who haven't been in school since lockdown began. This will be for a morning or an afternoon session and information has already been shared with parents. Our Year 6 class will be invited back for the afternoon of Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July for a Leavers' Meal and activities. A booking form should have been sent home for this.

As it is our final few days, there will be no work packs issued. If you are wanting some activities for your child, please access some of the activities below which will help your child/ren prepare for coming back to school in September.

## OUR THEME FOR THIS WEEK IS:

# ASPIRATIONS AND REFLECTIONS

## HERE ARE SOME ACTIVITY IDEAS

Have a go at as many of these activities as you want! Worksheets to support this work will be posted in the Covid-19 section by Monday.

**Worksheets**



|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>MONDAY</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Complete an All About Me activity to let your new teacher find out all about you! See the attached poster. Templates are available on the school website by following the Worksheets link above, or feel free to come up with your own.</b></li> <li>• Reflect on your favourite memories of the year or your class and piece them together as a jigsaw (See Worksheets for jigsaw template)</li> <li>• Write down or record two of your favourite memories from the past year. Try to think back to the things that happened before school closed. Please share these with your teacher and we may include them on the school website!</li> </ul> |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write a letter to someone in the year below to tell them all about your year group. What can they look forward to? What will they learn? What was your favourite activity from the past year?</li> <li>• Create a Bucket List full of activities you would like to do this Summer. Tick off all the ones that you do and share with your new teacher in September. (See Worksheets for template).</li> <li>• We will be welcoming a new teacher to teach Year 4 in September. Can you make them a card to welcome them to St Charles'?</li> </ul>   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are your talents and what skills would you like to develop? Research a job that you would like to do when you're older - interview someone who can help you understand what training you will need to do.</li> <li>• Do you have a goal that you would like to achieve by the time you are 10, 15, 20 or 50? Climb Mount Everest? Volunteer for a charity? Create a business? Invent something useful or fun? Complete the Aspirations sheet (See Worksheets).</li> </ul>  |