



# St Joseph's Roman Catholic High School

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**Headteacher:** Mr T McCabe | **Deputy Headteachers:** Mrs J Morgan, Mrs N Yorke Robinson | **Chair of Governors:** Mrs P Jones  
**Registered Charity Number:** 1075795 | **Facebook/Twitter:** StJosephsRCHS

May 2020

Good morning

On 24 May the Prime Minister announced that secondary schools should plan on the basis that from the week commencing 15 June, they can invite year 10 back into school for some face-to-face support with their teachers. Over half term we have worked through the secondary guidance that was released on the bank holiday and on Tuesday Morning SLT will finalise plans for Y10 to return to school on Monday 15th June, with quarter of Year 10 attending Mon-Thursday. Please note that this is a week later than we were originally planning and will be quarter of a year group rather than half, spanning Monday –Thursday. This is a change following the Prime Minister's announcement last week and is still subject to us being able to confirm that it is safe to do so. Our key worker/vulnerable child provision will continue as normal.

In the meantime we are preparing risk assessments, setting up 'socially distant' classrooms that can be sprayed with antibacterial spray and placing 2 metre markers around school to indicate a safe distance from people. Our risk assessment is currently being checked with Bolton H&S department and Governors are meeting on Wednesday to scrutinise our plans. I will be able to give you firmer plans as soon as we have addressed all the issues arising from this process.

All students will continue to be set work from their teachers on Epraise. Please encourage your child to get up before 9am, get dressed and make their day as purposeful as possible. We have had reports of young people on mobile devices throughout the night. Clearly this will make them tired and lethargic the following day. For good positive mental health, routine and purpose is key. Please see the bottom of this mail for links to organisations that offer advice about helping your child manage their 'online life' and keep positive mental health. All the advice suggests that it isn't a good idea for electronic devices to be in the bedroom at night time.

In the warm weather please do not allow your child to be tempted to swim in open water. One of our former students who is an experienced open water swimmer risked his life this weekend to save a drowning man. Jack commented that even with his own open water swimming experience he knew it was incredibly dangerous to enter the water and did so cautiously to save a life. He asked me to pass on the message to keep safe and stay out of open water.

The press have also 'snapped' many young people across the district who appear to be meeting others from outside their household and failing to stay 2 metres away. Please speak with your child about the fact that if they choose to do this they might not be putting themselves at great risk if they are reasonably healthy, but they are risking the lives of adults and vulnerable people they come across and the loved ones they live with who may well fall into a category that are at risk of death if they caught the virus. Please ask them to stay safe in all that they do.



As we begin the slow lifting of lockdown we face many different challenges. Some who have been shielding may face fear of 'the world out there'. Some may be fearing going back to school or mixing with people other than their household. Some may have had deep loss and tragedy and be facing a fearing a new 'normal'. Maybe others are fearing balancing their commitments. There may also be others excited about the adventure of more freedom. However you feel today let's remember that these feelings were probably mirrored in Jesus' disciples feelings 2000 years ago as they hid away behind locked doors afraid of what the world might do to them. Let's remember that at this time of Pentecost the Holy Spirit who came down upon the disciples will also come down and strengthen us today. Jesus said "As the Father sent me so I am sending you, receive the Holy Spirit." In yesterday's reading we hear (1Cor 12) "As the body is one, with many parts, we are all part of the Body of Christ." This is a reminder that whether we are shielding due to an underlying condition, isolating due to illness, working from home or in school, we are all working together as part of the Joeys Family.

Father, we lift up to you all those families who are suffering in any way due to the effects of coronavirus. We ask for your protection on us and all those that we love. We pray that you will send down your Spirit on us and renew the face of the earth. May your Spirit of Peace conquer our pain, bring healing to the world and overcome Coronavirus. Stay with us Lord, on our Journey.

Whatever this week brings let's face it with an enthusiasm gifted from the Holy Spirit to make our world a better place.

God Bless!

- Thinkuknow provides advice from the National Crime Agency (NCA) on staying safe online
- Parent info is a collaboration between Parentzone and the NCA providing support and guidance for parents from leading experts and organisations
- Childnet offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support
- Internet matters provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world
- London Grid for Learning has support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online, including tips to keep primary aged children safe online
- Net-aware has support for parents and carers from the NSPCC, including a guide to social networks, apps and games
- Let's Talk About It has advice for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation
- UK Safer Internet Centre has tips, advice, guides and other resources to help keep children safe online, including parental controls offered by home internet providers and safety tools on social networks and other online service

Tony McCabe  
Headteacher