



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
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Friday 12th June 2020

Dear parents and carers,

There has been a mixture of emotions this week as we have welcomed some happy smiling Reception and Year 1 children back into school, whilst at the same time being sad that the rest of our St Joseph's family cannot be with us for the time being. Thank you to everyone for making this week possible we have tried to keep your children as safe and happy as possible. Thank you for all your kind messages it really means so much to us all. For all of you at home I know you are still working hard and looking after one another, so well done to you as well.

We welcome Year 6 back next week on a part time basis and we are looking forward to seeing you, still remembering that it is your personal choice whether or not to send your child back to school.

Our key worker group is expanding, I know some of you have to go back to work and have child care issues. I would ask you to consider all possibilities before sending your child back to school as this is a child care facility and it would be a shame if we had to withdraw our offer to the Year groups we have invited back due to staffing constraints.

Church News

I'm very pleased to be attaching to this message our superb new parish magazine. Huge thanks to Nicola Osman our editor and all those who contributed. You can also view this online at https://issuu.com/josephfrancismagazine/docs/joseph_francis_finally_final

I'm absolutely delighted to be able to give you the times that our **churches will be open for private prayer**. From Monday 15 June both parishes will be opening, thanks so the generosity of so many who have volunteered their time to help as stewards or cleaners.

At St Joseph's, Portishead, the church will be open from 10am to midday and 4 to 6pm from Monday to Friday. On Saturdays the church will open only in the morning from 10am to midday. On Sundays it will be open only in the afternoon from 4 to 6pm. Additionally, the church will be open from 6-8pm on Thursday evenings.

We will try to keep doors open if the weather permits, as ventilation helps reduce risk and this also reduces touching of door handles. At St Joseph's, **access will normally be through the doors at the back of the**



"Together we love, together we hope, together we learn."



church rather than through the Foyer which will be locked unless the weather is really bad. Please use the hand sanitiser provided on entering and leaving the Church. You are very welcome to light candles, but there will be no matches or lighters provided – you can bring your own or light one from a candle that is already burning. Unfortunately the guidelines prohibit us from opening the toilets at this stage so there will be no access to toilet facilities. Feel free to wear a face covering if you wish to, but there is no requirement to do so. We don't have any face coverings, but if you wanted one let us know as some parishioners have been making them.

Mass this coming Thursday, 18 June, will exceptionally be at **9am**, just for this week.

While the Church has been locked, I have been live streaming a time of **prayer and lighting of candles each Sunday at 11.30am**. With the reopening of the Churches, people will once again be able to come and light a candle themselves, so this Sunday will be the last time we will do this. I'm very conscious that there are a number of people who will be unable to come to the Church themselves so am always very happy to take any requests for prayers or lighting of candles.

Following the success of our last virtual **quiz night**, we will be holding another one on **Saturday 20 June** from 8 to 9pm. Find out more and register at josephfrancis.org/quiz

Warmest wishes and prayers

Fr Tom

Safeguarding

This is rather a large copy and paste link, however it does give you some really good access to resources for parents with regards parental settings, e –safety and safeguarding information sheets for parents.

https://parenthub.thekeysupport.com/?from_OSH&utm_campaign=Safeguarding%20Training%20Centre%20%20-%20Summer%201%202020&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=89282737&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9ZPFWZSSIEeB8kq9P60RB2tBnwg67RdiZl479KCM6GobLyjsIjXXVWd0gEYms03r6PPGHOzc4c4JXct05EkbLB2EpB9rkd4VGRlI5pMp3iVEC-fVzt882H4EX763A90N6ViXGT&utm_content=89282737&utm_source=hs_email

Music Lessons

Please see the attached letter from Mrs Page, St Joseph's School is very proud of all of our musicians and the opportunities that children have to learn an instrument. We are still not sure what September will look like for our children but the music service will be back to teach our children in safe spaces in the school. If your child would like to learn an instrument please fill in the application and return to the school office by the 1st of July. It will be assumed that your child will continue with lessons unless you fill in the form to say you are discontinuing. These lessons are for KS2 only, if you have a child in KS1 and would like to be considered you will need to e mail the school separately and we will put you in touch with Mrs Page for a discussion.

Summer reading challenge

We have launched it earlier than usual to help support parents and carers with children already at home. Children can sign up here:

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/ -

North Somerset Libraries will help children find books to read for the Challenge through our collections of eBooks, eAudiobooks, online comics, and on our social media pages. We are aiming to have a click and collect service available as soon as possible, so that families can also safely collect physical books from their local library.

This year's theme is 'Silly Squad' a celebration of funny books, happiness and laughter. This theme offers families a chance to have fun and just "GET SILLY!", there is a Summer Reading



Challenge official book collection available as a guide, and we have created special collections of these titles on our eBook and eAudiobook platforms.

Children can sign-up to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge throughout the summer. On the new website they can:

- Set their own challenge to read any amount of books, with children being encouraged to read anything that makes them happy – whether it be comics, joke books, poetry, fiction or non-fiction; in digital or print format; from e-book lending through the public library service or from what they already have at home.
- Each time they finish a book, they add it to their profile and write a review. They are rewarded with activities and incentives along the way, such as online badges, games and videos.
- Families are encouraged to join in and 'Get Silly' with downloadable activities, games, quizzes and more. With new content to enjoy each week, the fun will continue throughout the summer to keep families engaged.
- They receive a downloadable certificate once they've completed their challenge!

Information on how children can join the library online, plus our collections of eBooks, eAudiobooks, online comics and more is all available at:

n-somerset.gov.uk/onlinelibrary or librarieswest.org.uk/

- During the Challenge we will be sharing fun activities and events on our social media channels, parents and carers can follow our pages at: facebook.com/nslibraries

Kind Regards
Portishead Library

School web site

Please keep an eye on the school web site there will be regular Government updates that you will be sign posted to. There are also extra resources for home schooling and prayer, please go to parents/covid 19. You will also find the term dates and INSET days for the next academic year under parents/term dates

The telephone in the office is being monitored every morning I would still recommend if you have any queries or you need help for any reason, please e mail the office rather than phone. Please be aware that at this present time parents **should not** come into the school foyer unless there is an emergency or you are picking up from After School Club.

I look forward to welcoming Year 6 back on Monday.

God Bless

Mrs Jackson

