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Thursday 7th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing the newsletter today as tomorrow is a bank Holiday to celebrate VE (Victory in Europe) day. It will be a very different Bank Holiday, as I know many of you were planning street parties and picnics to remember the end of the second World War across Europe. Please find the link below for ideas to share at home with regards celebrating this day under lock down, we would have been planning activities along the same lines at school. It has been said by many, that we are all fighting an invisible enemy and we must remain strong and resilient, thank you again for all that you are doing for your children during this time.

https://www.integra.co.uk/home-learning/projects/

We are all waiting for the Prime Ministers briefing on Sunday, we will of course share our plans with you as soon as we have been given any direction from the Government. Rest assured we will do everything we can to keep your children safe whatever the outcome of Sunday's briefing. We will also provide a coordinated response between all our schools in Portishead.

Church news

We continue to offer a daily assembly/prayer time for primary age children at 9.40 on weekdays and Children's Liturgy at 10.30 on Sundays.

Do contact me for the zoom link if you'd like to join us.

frtom@josephfrancis.org.uk

Mass continues to be livestreamed daily at midday at josephfrancis.org/livestream. Following the success of the trial, we are continuing to use Boxcast as our provider for this. Many people have reported improved quality of viewing as a result. We are thinking about offering streaming via app



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



on Roku, Apple TV and Amazon Fire TV. If this would be of interest let us know so that we can make a decision.

Portishead Foodbank - Food Donations to No4 Combe Road, it is open between 9am-12noon to receive them. And distribution from No4, Friday 12noon-2pm including Bank holidays. Yours in Christ Fr Tom

Safeguarding

A safeguarding hub from 'The Key' that allows parents to access interactive guidance on setting up parental controls on their child's devices, as well as guidance on apps like TikTok, YouTube and Instagram and more.

https://parenthub.thekeysupport.com?uuid=0ea8b3ef-7e30-4003-bc38-9e986f8ffad5

Useful Sites for parents

This has been sent to me by the Royal College of paediatrics there is some very useful information about talking to children about this difficult time and also some independent activities for all ages.

COVID-19 - resources for parents and carers (Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health)

The college have identified a range of useful websites and information to help parents and children at this time. The website can be found here: <u>https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/covid-19-resources-parents-carers</u>

The webpage can also be downloaded as a pdf here: <u>https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/sites/default/files/generated-pdf/document/COVID-19---resources-for-parents-and-carers.pdf</u>

Stay at home activities for children and young people <u>https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/stay-home-activities-children-young-people</u>

<u>ICT</u>

Many of you will have heard of Rasperry Pi, no it's not a fruit dessert! Click on the links below (not in Green) to sign up and get cracking on exciting ICT and coding activities.

Raspberry Pi Foundation have launched a new, free **Digital Making at Home** initiative to support parents and young people with coding at home. You don't need any coding experience to join in, and all of their resources and activities are free forever.

Every Monday, they release new themed code-along videos about projects designed for all levels of ability. They also provide support tutorials for parents who are interested in learning more about coding tools like Scratch and Python, and over 200 projects with step-by-step instructions that are accessible online at any time — all for free.

Sign up now to start receiving free activities suitable to your child's age and ability straight to your inbox.



Calling all Art fanatics/paint or draw your favourite African animal

Thank you to a Year 4 parent for providing this link to a lovely art competition- why not give it a go!

https://www.patrickmavros.com/blogs/news/drawing-competition?goal=0_5f52ff60cc-becde2ae00-85819137&mc_cid=becde2ae00&mc_eid=e2d5633083

Message from the school nursing team

Please find attached to this newsletter some important phone numbers from the school nurses.

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.

If you have any queries or you need help for any reason please e mail the office rather than phone as your message may not be picked up.

If you are having difficulties logging on or have forgot your password, you can e mail Mr Bath and he will help you out.

greg.bath@stjoes.org.uk

And finally- look what has appeared at Southmead Hospital-some lovely St Joseph's rainbows.

To the fantastic St Joseph's rainbow painters

Thank you for all the lovely colourful rainbows you made for my workplace, the Clinical Research Centre at Southmead Hospital. We have put them up around the building and they have really cheered the place up for our patients, thank you .



Have a lovely weekend whatever you are doing, we miss you all and I pray we can come back together safely soon.

God Bless

Mrs Jackson

'Father, when the future is uncertain and fear grips us, teach us the strength of being and the power of Love'. Amen