

Parent / Carer Newsletter 1

Welcome to our Parent/Carer newsletter. We want to be able to keep in touch with you all and also to update you on how we are communicating with students, working at school and also to share news. We hope that everyone who was self-isolating last week is feeling well or is recovering and that people who are social distancing for 12 weeks are finding a flow and balance to the days.

In school we have had a small group of students and they have had a range of enrichment experiences and lessons. They are also working on the tasks set by their usual teachers. We are able to offer this provision to parents/carers who are key workers and we would also like to thank families who are able to keep their children at home. The Government's aim of minimising the number of people in schools is definitely working at All Saints, as we are able to provide a service to those who most need it and we are able to limit the number of staff in school. This is all helping to reduce the spread of the virus.

We hope that you are getting used to 'home-schooling' and that your children are accessing the work that is set by teachers. This is a new process for the whole community and we are working to better support students, set work that they can access easily from home and we are also looking at new technologies so that we can keep in contact in different ways. Many of our school staff meetings have been happening by Zoom, so even the teachers are learning new skills at this time!

We also know that home schooling can be a challenge! We have attached a booklet to help with this and as communicated in our previous letters, keeping a good routine and maintaining a balance of work and other activities is really important. We hope the students are engaging with the PE department's daily workout and we are also planning to send out some enrichment activities for students to engage with at home. They will receive a weekly newsletter by email and it will also be on the school website. The student newsletter contains a reminder of staff email contacts.

For parents/carers of Y11 and Y13 students, there has been a further update about the predicted grades and the full statement can be read here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-update-on-2020-exams>

You can see that the Government hopes to provide us with further clarity about the predicted grades next week and to have a process in place by Easter. As communicated in our previous letter, students in these year groups should continue to complete the work that is being set by their teachers in the lead up to the Easter holidays (due to start on Friday 10 April). This will enable students to complete courses and it will also provide further evidence to support staff predictions. We will review this at Easter and we anticipate then moving to a system where students will be able to study the subjects that they have chosen to study at Sixth Form, College or University. We will send further information about this in future newsletters.

We send all of our best wishes to you all. Keep well and stay safe.

A prayer you may wish to say to remind us that God is always with us even in times of trouble.

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

STAY AT HOME - PROTECT THE NHS - SAVE LIVES