

Westminster Cathedral Roman Catholic Primary School

Founded By The Jesuit Fathers Circa 1849



Headteacher: Mrs A Stacey

16th March 2020

Dear Year 4 parents,

Under the direction of the Government and the Department for Education, our school is to stay open unless there is a reason for me to close the school of which I will be directed by the Department for Education, the Local Authority or Public Health England. These are uncertain and anxious times for us all and many of you have queried when and if the school will close. As I write, the advice to schools from Public Health England and the DfE is that schools in England remain open and therefore Westminster Cathedral Primary School will remain open until further notice.

The education of your children is important to us. In the event of the school being closed before the Easter Holidays or if you have to self-isolate your child it is important that they continue their learning.

Attached to this email are home learning activities for your child to complete at home. **PLEASE NOTE THIS WORK IS TO NOT REPLACE CHILDREN COMING TO SCHOOL. If your child is fit and well it is expected they are to attend school.**

The children will keep their homework books in their bags so any work completed at home, if the school is closed or if you are self-isolating your child, can be completed in their homework books. You are more than welcome to email any work completed to your child's class teacher via the school office: office@westcathsch.co.uk.

A copy of the home learning is available on the school website under 'Our Curriculum' and your child's year group page.

In addition to the information provided, Ms Lee has created a pack of learning resources that has been placed in your child's school bag today. Please arrange to come and collect the pack if they have not received it today.

Sending this work home is precautionary and we **expect all children who are healthy to attend school every day.**

Finally and most importantly, Coronavirus is dominating the news and social media and children, as always, will be asking direct, difficult questions about what is going to happen. Stories of deaths, possible food shortages and school closures, and the circulation of phrases like 'pandemic' can add to a sense of alarm.

The advice at home and in school is to listen to the child's concerns and answer their questions in an age appropriate manner without overwhelming them with too much information. We must encourage them to express and communicate their feelings and let them know that their reaction and concerns are normal reactions to an abnormal situation. If you would like some further advice, please click here or on the link below to watch a short video clip which has some useful advice on answering questions your child may ask <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p085wdnq>

I have also attached a child friendly presentation explaining what the Coronavirus is. This is also available on the school website homepage.

Yours kindly,

Mrs A Stacey

Headteacher

'Love One Another As I have Loved You' John 13:34

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