

Westminster Cathedral Catholic Primary School

Founded by The Jesuit Fathers Circa 1849



Newsletter

Monday 8th June 2020

'Love one another as I have loved you'

John 13:34

Holy Apostles.

Father Pat and the seminarian, Patrick have been very busy these past weeks creating beautiful, reflective visual prayers helping us to find ways to keep closer to the Church and our Lord. If you have not already done so, please try to join Father Pat via the internet for his weekly and daily worship.

www.churchservices.tv/pimlico

Father Pat has also created a wonderful introduction to Holy Apostles, Pimlico which can be found on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ImDH1-MnBg4>

The folk group created a fantastic version of Carole King's You've got a Friend—(I have to be honest, this is my favourite version of this song.) Please take time to see this.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2_6dY2D-To

If you do not already subscribe to Christian Art and receive a daily update of the day's reading with a piece of art work and description—I highly recommend you do so. On there Father Pat leads us in beautiful prayers.

www.christian.art

Dear parents and friends,

I would like to start this week's newsletter saying thank you to all who have taken time to write me an email wishing me well after my announcement last week. It has been lovely receiving the words of encouragement and understanding. I am remaining as head teacher until the end of the academic year, which for me is 31st August. Mr Scott-Cree, Ms Smith and myself are already meeting ensuring we have a comprehensive hand over.

I truly pray we will be together before the end of the summer term.

Last week we opened the school to Year 6. We have two classes (or hubs as we are calling them). We have remained open to our key worker pupils since 23rd March and it was lovely seeing them return on Tuesday after the half term. We currently have 19 pupils attending our key worker provision.

If you would like to see the risk assessments and provisions we have in place for re-opening the school please visit our school website—school information—COVID-19.

<http://westminstercathedral.ng1.devwebsite.co.uk/page/?title=COVID%2D19&pid=1117>

Today we welcomed back our Year 1 pupils and on Wednesday our Reception pupils will return.

Of course, as you have seen this week all the class teachers are continuing and will continue to provide home schooling for your children.

Please know we are here for you. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at school.

God Bless, Mrs Stacey

Pupil voice.

Dear children,

I know times have been very hard in lockdown, who would have thought no school would be boring! To keep busy I have learnt how to bake, and I am making a book with photos and memories so we can look back on this worrying but special time- maybe you could do one too! I wonder how many of us would have the same experiences? I miss school and my friends so much but remember staying home you are doing an important job keeping us all safe try to think of all the nice memories you are making with your family. I think we should thank our teachers and staff at WCPS for being our heroes even though we have been home many still are at school working hard for you . I am praying for you all , keep safe and hopefully see you all soon . **Ethan Gafoor, Head boy.**

Updated guidance on what parents and carers need to know about education settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

The Department for Education (DfE) have updated their guidance on what parents and carers need to know about schools and other education settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak to include information on the curriculum, after school activities, repeating a year for pupils, transport and keeping children safe online. We have also amended information on whether it is compulsory to send pupils to educational settings and education for children at home.

The guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Take part in the Westminster City archive project

Westminster City Archives is developing a project to record the experiences of residents, businesses, employees, volunteers and students, to show how the lockdown has affected them. The council want to know how your life has changed, how you are adapting to new daily routines, and how living in Westminster currently feels, for future generations to learn from.

You can contribute your experiences, thoughts and feelings in many ways:

- photos and drawings
- written or video diaries
- poetry and prose

Anyone of any age can contribute.

As the archives are temporarily closed, please email archives@westminster.gov.uk and express your interest in the project. When the archives reopen, they will contact everyone to discuss how they can donate to the archive.

Read more here: <https://www.westminster.gov.uk/library-opening-hours-and-contact-details>



Schools have been asked to emphasise the importance of a safe online environment and encourage parents and carers to set age-appropriate parental controls on digital devices and use internet filters to block malicious websites. These are usually free, but often need to be turned on.

Please use these resources to keep your children safe online:

[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 services



Children's use of mobile phones.

I am sure over the past couple of weeks your child is making more use of their mobile phone and I know many children are using your phones to access their home learning. **Please be aware that smart phones that access the internet should be monitored closely by you.** It is recommended that children do not have mobile phones with them

when they go to bed. This is a safeguarding matter to protect them but also the 'blue light' can affect sleep patterns. Please be vigilant when your child accesses the internet via a phone/ tablet and monitor their use of social media.

Please be aware of the communication your child is having with others outside of your home. Thank you.