

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Friday 4th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our new school year, which I hope will bring many joys to you and your children. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces on Wednesday morning, as parents and carers walked down the path with their children. We have been waiting a long time for this day! Thank you to everyone for your bright smiles and words of welcome. It is very good to see you all.



I understand that for many of you, this may have been an emotional and difficult time. We have endeavoured to provide everyone with detailed information about the return to school, and hope that we have been able to answer the many questions you may have. I have also sent out today, a letter from Professor Kate Ardern, who is the Director of Public Health from Wigan Council, which explains the current situation for schools in Wigan. The letter is also available on our school website.

Our first priority for all our returning pupils is to establish many new routines, which are unfamiliar. We have new routines for handwashing, going to the toilet, where we have lunch, who's in our bubble, where to sit, which equipment can be used ... and the list goes on! It is certainly a lot to understand and remember.

By now, I expect that adults too, will be getting used to our new routines, our staggered drop off and collection times and our one-way route. Keeping to your designated collection time, as far as possible, at the end of the school day is especially important. Please don't come early, as we don't want to keep you waiting, if your child isn't ready. If you are early, we ask that you wait well away from the classroom door and avoid blocking the pathway around the school. Maintaining 2 metres social distancing for adults is especially important. Thank you to everyone for following our signs and our directions. Your co-operation helps to ensure that everyone is safe and that we can keep everyone moving smoothly around the site.

Year Three Up-date – From Monday 7th September we will be reverting back to our first plan for dropping off Year Three pupils (Miss Pike and Miss Prescott). If you have a child in **Y3 only**, please drop them on the Key Stage One Playground, so that they can walk independently to their classroom doors. Adults should drop and go. Please do not linger on the playground as this will cause congestion and difficulties for other adults on the site. We have a '**no waiting**' policy, which we must comply with.

At the end of the school day, Miss Prescott's Y3 class must be collected by following the one-way system around the building. If you have a child in **Miss Pike's** class only, they can be collected from the KS1 playground (you do not need to follow the one-way route).

PE Lessons

Next week, we hope to introduce outdoor PE lessons, weather permitting! On your child's PE day, they should come to school dressed in their PE kit. This includes: school PE shorts and tee-shirt, plain black jogging bottoms and your school sweat shirt. Please wear trainers on this day only. See below for your child's PE day.

| Day | Classes |
|-----------|---|
| Monday | Y6 Mrs Leaford and Mrs Ryan |
| Tuesday | Y3 Miss Pike and Miss Prescott Y4 Mrs Dutfield and Mrs Ratchford |
| Wednesday | |
| Thursday | Y5 Mrs Alty and Mr Turner Y1 Mrs Hart |
| Friday | Y2 Miss Draper and Y1/2 Mr Sankey |

Reception children do not need to wear their PE kits at the moment and should come to school each day in their uniforms.

Miss Pike's Y3s

Remember swimming lessons start on Monday 7th September 2020.

Home reading

We will be starting to send home reading books, during next week. Books will be sent home once a week and we have important routines to follow in managing their return. To prevent the spread of Coronavirus, we will be placing returned books into quarantine boxes on their return to school. After 72 hours of storage, the books will then be placed back into circulation.

Reading in KS1

All pupils in KS1 (Mrs Hart's, Mr Sankey's and Miss Draper's classes) should bring in their red book bag on **Monday 7th September**. Please ensure that your child's name is on their book bag. Our phonics teaching groups will begin next week and we will be preparing books for each child to take home, matched to their phonic ability.

Children's book bags will be sent home on different days next week, with information about the return day. Don't worry if your child doesn't bring home their book bag straight away, as we need time to organise them. All children will have their book bag set up by next Friday at the latest.

Reading in KS2

| Day | Year Group |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday | Y5 Mrs Alty and Mr Turner |
| Tuesday | Y6 Mrs Ryan and Mrs Leaford |
| Wednesday | Y3 Miss Pike and Miss Prescott |
| Thursday | Y4 Mrs Dutfield and Mrs Ratchford |
| Friday | |

Pupils in KS2 will start to bring books home from the school library, next week.

Each year group bubble has been allocated a session in the library, where small groups of children will be able to select a book to read. Books can be borrowed for one week and should be returned to school on the same day the following week. Books will be quarantined before they are placed back on the library shelves.

Please support your child with reading at home and help them to get back on track!

IT ADDS UP!

If you read just 15 minutes a day, in one year you will have read over 1,000,000 words!

Source: Statisticbrain.com



Year Six – We continue to provide access to 'Reading Plus', for all year six pupils. This is an on-line programme which develops reading speed and fluency. We would like all of our year six pupils to access this as often as possible to build up their reading skills again.

TT Rock Stars – All pupils (Y3 – Y6) have access to this on-line maths programme. It is used to enable pupils to develop their quick responses, mental arithmetic and fluency in maths. All children should know up to their 12 x12 times tables by the end of Year Four. Please support your child in accessing this resource. Help your child to get up to speed again!



High Standards of Presentation

Our staff have been very impressed with how our pupils have returned to school. Many children, have spent a long time at home and they have impressed us with their confidence and independence as they entered unfamiliar classrooms and met their new teachers. They all look very smart in their school uniforms and shiny shoes. They are indeed a credit to all our parents and carers who have tried very hard to comply with our uniform policy.

Please remember:

- No earrings or nail polish
- Long hair should be tied back. No 'tram lines' or extreme hairstyles
- Sensible school shoes (trainers – only on PE days)

If you require any further information about uniform and standards of presentation, please look on the school website, where our prospectus is available.

Remote Learning

The DFE has asked all schools to ensure that parents and carers know how to access remote learning at home in case your child is unable to attend school for any reason. Next week I will be sending out a short questionnaire regarding your access to devices e.g. lap tops and your access to the internet etc. We started to engage with our pupils through 'Microsoft Teams in the Classroom' during July and were successful in working with many children from the present Year Four up-wards. Did your child take part? Please look out for our questionnaire and return to school next week.

Communication with Parents and Carers

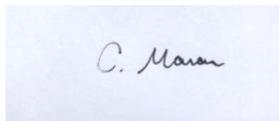
In order to reduce transmission of Covid-19 we ask all parent and carers to communicate with us in the following ways:

- Telephone the school office on 01942 231478
- Send a note in with your child
- Drop an email to enquiries@admin.sacredheart.wigan.sch.uk

Please ensure that you are able to use **Parent Mail** and that you are able to access the school website. Look out for our up-date letters which will be sent out regularly through **Parent Mail**, shared through **Facebook** and published on our **school website**.

We will **not** be sending out letters in paper format, unless absolutely necessary. A copy of any letter can be requested from the school office and they are also on display in the notice boards outside of school.

Finally, thank you for your continuing support and best wishes for the coming year ahead,



Mrs Mason

(Headteacher)

PROUD of our children; PROUD of our school; PROUD of our faith