



Catholic Life Of The School

This is our school
Let peace dwell here
Let the room be full of contentment
Let love abide here
Love of one another
Love of mankind
Love of life itself
And love of God
Amen

This is the prayer which we say as a whole school when we get together for assemblies. Please encourage your child to learn all the words so they can join in confidently with the prayer.

OFSTED

As you will be aware, the school was inspected by OFSTED on Monday and Tuesday. The report will be sent to parents in a few weeks time. Thank you to all the parents who took the time to complete and return the questionnaires. The team was very impressed with the number returned and the effort you had all taken. Thank you to all the children who behaved so well and especially to those who spoke to the inspectors. I am also very grateful to all the staff, parents, governors and children who helped with the last minute preparations which helped us show the school at its best.

Building Work

As you will see the building work has started. If you have any queries or concerns then please let us know.

Snow And More Snow!

We have had to be somewhat reactive rather than proactive to the snowy weather. I cannot commend all the staff highly enough for the efforts they have made in the current very wintry weather conditions. A number of our staff live some distance away from the school and the vast majority have made it in to work. Staff also supported each other in covering classes to allow staff to leave promptly to ensure no one was stranded at school. Teachers made the most of the snow in terms of using it as a stimulus for the work undertaken.

This considerable team effort has enabled St Robert Southwell to remain open throughout the current difficult weather conditions and I know from comments received that this has been appreciated. A very special thanks must go to Mr Geraghty who arrived very early on all the snow days to ensure the school could open and continually checked on the slippery floors during the day. We would also like to extend a thank you to Mr Carey who gave up his time to help Mr Geraghty clear the paths to ensure safe walkways for all.

We have had high levels of attendance overall, albeit with some arriving later than usual.

As personal circumstances are so different for all our families and it is important that everyone can remain safe, all absence for snow days will be recorded as authorised and children who arrived late will not have a late mark recorded against their record if they arrived by playtime.

I know many parents tried to use both the website and “Open Check” and faced difficulties.

Open Check shows the school as open unless our status changes, so even though the update may be old the information is correct.

Our website provider has advised me that the website was updated but that there were some technical difficulties with several school sites.

A number of parents have talked positively about text messages received from secondary schools and we will be looking into this in the future.

Staffing

Mrs Keville has gone on maternity leave and we wish her well and look forward to hearing about her new arrival in due course. During her absence her class is going to be covered by Mrs Sullivan and Miss Patel.

Unfortunately Miss Koenigsberger is not fit enough to return to work. She has been advised that her recovery is likely to take several months. Mrs Egan is now covering some of Miss Koenigsberger’s timetable. Classes will be following an amended music curriculum, taught by their class teachers from next week.

Please remember both these teachers in your prayers.

Lunchboxes

Please ensure lunch boxes remain healthy and do not include crisps, sweets or fizzy drinks.

New Play Equipment

As you will have seen, in spite of the snow the new junior equipment has been installed. The children have begun to use the equipment this week. This equipment has been purchased for older pupils and is not suitable for very young children. Please help us keep all our children safe by not allowing young children to use the equipment at the beginning and end of the day.

Uniform

There has been a lot of slippage in uniform standards during the bad weather, especially in relation to shoes, socks, tights and the addition of scarves, particularly amongst the girls. Please ensure that if weather necessitates the wearing of boots, your child has black school shoes to change into. Trainers look very scruffy and are not part of our uniform. Scarves should be worn outdoors only. Please check that your children’s clothes fit them and are in good condition. Often, when I challenge children about buttons being unfastened, the button is missing. First impressions count and, in order to maintain a good impression of our school, children need to wear their uniform smartly.

*Following Jesus’ footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell we work hard,
aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness*

Does your child come to school or go home from school on their own?

Any junior child coming to school or going home from school unaccompanied must bring a letter to the school office explaining these arrangements.

Scrap Paper

Does anyone work in an office or printers? Any scrap paper would be welcome.

Wellingtons

We would be grateful for donations of any old wellington boots, small sizes (children's size 9, 10 and 11) in particular.

Tissues

We would also be grateful for donations of boxes of tissues.

School Meals

Due to the building work to the kitchen, sandwich meals only will be served from next Monday, 1st February. Parents who pay for their child's meals have already received a letter giving them the option of bringing their own packed lunch to school or of having a packed lunch provided for the sum of £9.50 per week. With regard to children on free school meals, they will continue to be catered for but it will be sandwiches instead of a hot meal.

E-Safety Meeting – Wednesday 3rd February

A separate letter is being sent today regarding this event.

Gordon Brown Parents' Meeting

This meeting will now take place on Tuesday 2nd February at 5.30 p.m.

Dates of Class Assemblies

Thursday 4th February – Yellow 10

Thursday 11th February – Red 2

Thursday 25th February – Blue 5

Thursday 4th March – Yellow 7

Thursday 11th March - Blue 4

Thursday 18th March – Blue 6

Thursday 25th March - Red 1

Holy Week

Monday 29th March 2.30 p.m. Palm Sunday – Reception (Please note change of date)

Tuesday 30th March – The Last Supper – Red Classes 9.15 a.m.

Thursday 1st April - The Way of the Cross – Blue Classes 9.00 a.m.