



St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER NO 9: Friday 13th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for the continued support and understanding that you have shown this week. Across Kent, there is a rise in positive cases, with the Medway area seeing some of the highest numbers of cases in the country. Unfortunately, this has affected our school community over the last two weeks. As such positive cases, across schools has become part of our "new normal" please know that my team and I are doing all that we can to keep our school community safe.

As you may be aware within our school community/family we have a number of staff members having to self-isolate at this time and also two class bubbles closed. We are missing them from our school family, but I'm sure you'll join with me in sending our thoughts and prayers to them at this time. We look forward to having Year 4 back with us on Monday 16th and Year 5 on Monday 23rd November. I want to reassure you that our top priority is to keep our school open and as a team, we have pulled together and put measures in place to ensure teaching and learning continues for all pupils

I would like to reassure you that our measures of control within school are based on robust and ongoing risk assessments following Government guidelines. We are confident in the thorough protective measures that we have put in place and we are ensuring that everyone in our school continues to follow them.

Attendance

As you are aware we are now in another National Lockdown, but we remain open. It remains very important for children to attend, to support wellbeing and education and working parents/carers.

Health Reminders - A reminder to parents: dropping off and collecting children from school

It is extremely important that you follow social distancing rules when dropping off and collecting your child/children. Social distancing is vitally important to prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Please remember that when dropping off or picking up your child/children, you should:

- Wash your hands (20 seconds = a thorough wash) or use hand sanitiser before you arrive at school;
- Keep more than 1 metre apart from other parents and staff (ideally 2 metres);
- Only one member of your household should arrive at the school gates to collect your child/children (to help reduce the number of people at the school gate during pick-up times);
- Do not gather at the gates/outside school and leave as soon as you have seen your child walk through the gate. Using the one-way system by crossing over to the other side of Canon Close.
- If you need to visit the school reception area, then a face covering must be worn.

Please note that face coverings are optional to wear outside of the school; you can choose to decide to wear one at the school gates/outside school.

Ventilation

Following Government guidance to minimise the spread of the virus we have been following advice to keep rooms as well ventilated as possible. If your child is particularly susceptible to the cold then a base layer of a vest or t-shirt might be suitable as well.

New Addition to our School Uniform

As mentioned previously, we have added a navy fleece zip jacket to our school uniform list. This **non-compulsory** fleece is to be worn **over the top of** school jumpers/cardigans **not in place of them**. The fleece is available to purchase for £12.25, directly from our school uniform supplier Brigade, and can be viewed and ordered via the following link: http://www.brigade.uk.com/content.php?page=select_school&for=parents Please note that the fleece will include the embroidered school logo.

Until further notice, all other items of school uniform will remain available to purchase from the school office.





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Remembrance Day

We held a two-minute silence at 11am on Wednesday of this week to honour the brave men and women who have given their lives in conflicts. Once known, we will share with you the total amount raised for the Royal British Legion, through our poppy sales.

Cashless School

It is our ambition to become a cashless school. If you need help accessing your ParentPay account or need a reminder of your activation code please contact the school office.

Primary and Secondary Admissions 2021 / 22

Applications for secondary schools are now open and close at 5pm on Monday 30th November. Please check the Medway Council website or individual schools for information concerning admission criteria and open days. **If you do not submit your application by the 30th November your child may not be allocated the school of their choice.**

Applications for those children who will be 4 years of age before 31st August 2021 are now open and close on Friday 15th January at 5pm. School tours are currently suspended until further notice.

Catch up lessons

The government is providing funding to cover a one-off universal catch-up premium for the 2020 to 2021 academic year it aims to support pupils to catch up for lost learning during lockdown. These lessons will continue until the end of term. Our first round of catch up lessons for identified pupils took place on Monday after school.

Tuesday morning SEN appointments

Should you wish to make an appointment to discuss any SEN related issues please speak with the office and they will arrange an appointment for a Tuesday morning after 9:30am. Alternatively, you may email Mrs Ward directly on sen@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk . Phone consultations are preferable.

Safeguarding

Please find below useful links to help keep children safe.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

<http://www.mscc.org.uk/>

To view or download a copy of a parent guide from NSPCC about 'PANTS' and how to keep your child safe from abuse click the link below: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/pants/pants-2018/pants-parents-guide-online.pdf>

E-Safety

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> The site is produced by the NSPCC and provides lots of parental resources and guides for apps, games and social media sites.

Annual Nasal Flu Spray Immunisation

This year the Immunisation team is offering **ALL** children of St. William of Perth the nasal flu spray on Wednesday 25th November. Full details have been sent home to every family via ParentMail. Please complete the online consent form marking whether you consent or decline consent at <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/forms/imms-consent-form/> access the consent form you will need to enter our school URN: 118775.

The online consent form will close at midnight on the 20th November.

PTA Donations If you have any outgrown items of school uniform that remain in good 're-saleable' condition, please feel free to leave them with the school office at your convenience. Our 'nearly new' school clothes are sold at 50p per item and are available through PTA uniform sales throughout the year and also on request from the school office.

If you have any unwanted toys / soft toys please consider donating them to the PTA for any future toy sales, again, they can be left at the school office at your convenience.

PTA 'Twelve Days of Christmas' raffle Tickets are to be returned to the school office by **Friday 20th November**. Donations suitable for the raffle i.e. chocolate, wine, spirits, sweets, gift sets, toiletries, toys etc., would be gratefully received and can be left in the school office at your convenience. We thank you for your continued support.

Children in Need It was lovely to see the children dressed so brightly today. A big thank you to our generous families and staff in our school. **Donations received today total £129.** If you have yet to and would like to donate, we will continue to collect donations until the end of next week.

Medway Food Bank - Advent Calendars If you would like to support the Medway Food Bank, we will be delivering chocolate Advent calendars in time for their distribution to the local community for Advent. Donations to be received in





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school by Friday 20th November, thank you. We are also happy to deliver on your behalf, any other item(s) of food or toiletries that you wish to donate.

Praise Celebrations for the week!

Merit Award: Well done to the following children who received a merit award certificate. Hugo Y R, William Y 1, Jacob Y 2, Enzo Y 3, Summah Y 6.

House Points

Team house winner this week: Yellow Team

This week we say a fond farewell to our speech and language therapist Mrs S. Post who has worked with our children for the last 6 years and wish her all the very best in her future endeavours.

Finally, we end with a note of gratitude to the Co-op store, Marley Way, Dickens Estate, who have very kindly donated a full sports kit and sporting accessories for the children to use at future team sporting events. We thank them enormously for their generosity.

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

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|----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Friday 20 th | Nasal Flu Spray Immunisation DEADLINE to reply | Reply by Midnight |
| | Medway Foodbank – Advent Calendars | Deadline to donate |
| Wednesday 25 th | Nasal Flu Spray Immunisation day | All Years |

