



ST JOSEPH'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Part of the Edmund Rice Family

31st March 2021

Dear Parents,

After a very busy term we are all looking forward to celebrating Easter.

Whilst some aspects of Lent have been different this year at school with none of the usual Lenten activity weeks, the children have had time to raise money through their sponsored activities and also to take time to reflect and pray about Jesus journey to the Cross.

The children have been involved as classes in choosing which charities to support and it has been lovely to see how important the issues these represent are to them and the gratitude they have expressed to the frontline NHS staff who have worked so hard throughout this last year. Other Charities that were chosen for Lenten fundraising are Donna Louise and Cancer Research UK.

We were blessed with wonderful weather yesterday which allowed the Easter Bonnet Parade to take place out of doors with a full school audience - and without the aid of Teams – and at the time of writing we are looking forward to the fun of the Easter Rabbit Hunt and the Jar Tombola; all of which will see us reach the end of term.

I trust that you will all find a moment to relax and enjoy Easter and hope that the easing of restrictions will enable families and friends to come together.

Uniform

We are proud of our uniform which makes us so distinctive, however with the ongoing COVID situation and Clive Marks not yet fully open we recognise the difficulty faced in obtaining uniform. For this summer term therefore we will continue to have children wear sports kit on those days when they have PE and Games, and will allow children to come in either summer or winter uniform. Should boys choose to wear shorts we ask that they are not Combat Shorts (with outer side pockets) please, and ask that all children are in shoes not boots, unless permission has been granted on medical grounds.

Clive Mark Schoolwear plan to re-open their store on Monday 12th April. Please check their website for opening hours before you pay a visit to them, as their opening times **will** be changeable.

Hair Cuts

With the welcome news that Hairdressers should hopefully be reopening during the holiday, please can you ensure that boys have a conventional haircut and not a 'fashion cut' that involves short shaving or 'tram lines.'

Girls with shoulder length hair should have it tied back in plain black or red bobbles.

Catholic Life

The school continues to be very grateful to Father Michael for supporting the school and for continuing to pray for us and lead us in Mass each week.

On 5th May we celebrate the Feast Day of Blessed Edmund Rice who was the founder of the Congregation of Christian Brothers. We hope we will be able to celebrate this with Mass as usual and will let you know once details have been confirmed with Fr Michael.

Curriculum and Summer Term Events

With the government's road map in place our plans for the summer term are to deliver our full and regular curricular and extra-curricular provision over the summer term as far as is possible with Exam, Design & Technology and Humanities weeks, May Day, Sports Day and Prize Giving. A number of key aspects still however remain fluid at this time so final details are subject to change. We will of course endeavour to give you as much notice as possible.

Looking further ahead Mr Ferris will again be looking to run a summer sports camp we are also looking at the viability of running a drama school along similar lines, if you would be interested in either of these please fill in the form via the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/yNZrG0N3vM>

Please note that this would be for PP1, PP2, P3, P4, P5 & P6 classes only

School Re-Opens for the Summer Term on Monday 19th April.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support for the school.

As we approach the events of Holy Week and once again think about the sacrifice that Jesus made on the Cross I pray that you will know the Hope that the Resurrection brings.

I wish you a very blessed and joyful Easter.

Catholic Easter Prayer

Lord, the resurrection of Your Son
has given us new life and renewed hope.
Help us to live as new people
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.
Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,
the will to want to do it,
the courage to undertake it,
the perseverance to continue to do it,
and the strength to complete it.

Source: New Saint Joseph People's Prayer Book



God Bless.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Mr D Hood in blue ink.

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