

St John's Church of England Primary School

'The JOY of the Lord is Your Strength' (Nehemiah 8:10)

Headteacher: Mr Phil Thomson



Tuesday 31st March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Firstly, and most importantly, we hope you are all safe and well in these unprecedented times. We continue to be open for families of critical workers and will be doing so for the foreseeable future. It seems strange having so few children in school but we are so thankful to the parents of these children fulfilling critical roles and to those in critical roles who are not needing child care currently. I have heard of parents who are volunteering for the NHS or taking on 'critical jobs' and thank you for doing so; please ring or email us at school should you need to book your child / children into our care.

At this moment in time, we will be open over the Easter holidays (except Good Friday and Easter Monday) with a skeleton staff working each day. I will be sending out booking forms this week for those children in school, these will also be available on the website. Please return the form, or email us, or ring us – as long as we know in advance!

Each day currently, we have at least 3 members of staff in the building all of the time – usually a teacher, a teaching assistant and a member of senior leadership. We try to keep the office staffed for most of the day but there are times when we are in the classroom spending time with the children and ensuring staff receive breaks – please be patient with us if no one is immediately available.

We will continue to keep in contact with all families via email and letter in the first instance. Letters are emailed out to those who have provided an email address and are also uploaded to the website – in both the News section and under the newsletters. We have set up a new email address for the school: enquiries@stjohnsprimary.co.uk which is an ideal way of communicating with us. Some parents and children have already sent in some wonderful examples of their home learning and these have been uploaded to the website for all to see. **If we do not hold an email address for you in school, please ensure you ring school to let us know one at your earliest convenience.**

Teachers will continue to add little bits to their own home learning pages over time. We don't want to overload pupils and parents too early over what could be a prolonged period. Education companies are continuing to develop their own content to support home learning and where possible we add these links to class pages but don't hesitate to contact us if you spot any fantastic ideas worth sharing. One of the best bits I have seen today is on the White Rose Maths Hub where video lessons are available to help your child with their work. Many of the activities and webpages can be completed without printing, but, if you need something printing and are not able to, please let us know and we can arrange this in school. Usually, we are happy to leave photocopied packs in the foyer to be picked up when you are able. As we move towards the summer term, and the predicted continued lockdown, teachers will be developing a more structured day for each class.

Rufford Road, Crossens, Southport, PR9 8JH
admin.stjohnscrossens@schools.sefton.gov.uk
www.stjohnsprimary.co.uk

St John's Church of England Primary School

'The JOY of the Lord is Your Strength' (Nehemiah 8:10)

Headteacher: Mr Phil Thomson



If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals (a reminder that this is not the same as the Universal Free Meals for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2), the government have announced details of their plan today. Under the new plan, schools will order vouchers for all children in receipt of free school meals with parents then sent a link via email in order to choose which supermarket to redeem their voucher at. Vouchers will only be available for term-time. From the email sent to me today, registration details for schools should be with us by Thursday at the latest, at which point I will write specifically to parents of children eligible for free school meals. The process is quicker, I believe, if we hold a valid email address for you so please ensure we have up to date information.

In the meantime, we have some Tesco vouchers in school which we will be able to provide to any families eligible for free school meals who may be in need until the government scheme is up and running. Please contact school for more information. We are also endeavouring to keep in touch with many of our families over the coming days and weeks, whether this be by email or phone call. We are here to help at St. John's, so please ensure you get in contact should you need anything. It is vital that we all help each other as much as possible during the current pandemic.

We will continue to update you regularly with letters from St. John's. We encourage you to keep up to date with government guidance on coronavirus and how to stay safe and well. The following government website features plenty of information to keep you fully informed, <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

I can only thank you all for the kind and supportive messages sent into school in recent days and we hope to see you all soon. Please keep in contact via email, use the website and remember that we are here if you need us.

Kind Regards and stay safe.

Phil Thomson