



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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7th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is lovely seeing the children back at school! They seemed to have settled well into the 'new normal' and are happy to be back at school.

Parents please remember that just one parent should be coming onto the school site to drop off and collect. Also it is vital that parents remember the social distancing expectations while on the school premises; therefore, parents should not be in standing in close proximity to each other and chatting while collecting and dropping off their children.

Bow Street Road Closure

Newham Council has introduced a Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) scheme in the area surrounding the school. As part of the LTN scheme, the Council has placed access restrictions for motorised vehicles on certain roads near the school. Therefore, if you choose to drive your child or children to school you may need to take a different route than usual. However, you will still be able to drop-off and pick-up outside the school as normal.

Newham is one the worst boroughs for asthma sufferers and the Council is committed to improving air quality in the borough, particularly for children. The LTN scheme aims to also reduce traffic in the area and make the roads safer, while also encouraging people to walk and cycle, and support with social distancing.

For more information on the Newham and Waltham Forest LTN visit:

<https://newhamwalthamforestltn.commonplace.is/>

If driving, to access Maryland Park, Maryland Square and Bow Street please enter and exit via Forest Lane.

I realize that this road closure is causing some challenges for parents and visitors, unfortunately we were not involved or consulted about this change. If you are concerned about this road closure, please contact your local councillor.

Homework on Google Classroom

We will now use Google Classroom for the weekly Friday homework for years 1-6 starting on Friday, 11th September. There will be more information about this later this week.



Newham London

Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



Annual Consent Form

Your child should have come home with his/her annual consent form for the 2020-2021 school year; this allows your child to go on visits in the local area. Please sign this form and return it by Monday, 7th September.

Data Sheet

Your child should have come home with a data checking sheet, please update this sheet with any changes to your personal information and return it to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. If all the information is correct please simply sign and return the sheet to your child's teacher by Monday, 7th September.

Afterschool clubs

The afterschool clubs that run from 3:30 - 4:30 will begin on Monday, 7th September.

Class and Individual Photos

The class and individual photos for this academic year will be taken on Friday, 11th September. Please ensure that your child is dressed in full school uniform.

Nursery

- white polo shirt
- navy joggers
- navy sweatshirt
- black school shoes

Reception to Year Six:

- navy blue blazer (Years 1 - 6)
- white shirt
- school tie
- navy blue trousers, skirt or pinafore
- girls may wear white socks or navy/black tights
- boys may wear navy/black socks
- black school shoes
- grey cardigan/jumper (optional for winter uniform, but compulsory for Reception)

For girls:

- hair bands, clips and ribbons should be in white, navy blue or black
- hair styles should be simple and age appropriate (no coloured hair)
- no nail varnish or make up of any form
- small studs earring are allowed but no hoop or dangly earrings

Boys are asked to have their hair trimmed in a sober, age appropriate manner for school so there should be no:

- pony tails, mohawks, coloured hair patches
- no symbols or brand or designs cut into the scalp
- no earrings for school

All children should wear black school shoes no trainers are allowed.



September 2020

We will welcome all children back but will keep an eye on the scientific advice so we can adjust to the latest guidance. We will have children working in phase bubbles as follows:

- Nursery and Reception (EYFS)
- Year 1 and Year 2 (Key Stage 1)
- Year 3 and Year 4 (Lower Key Stage 2)
- Year 5 and Year 6 (Upper Key Stage 2)

Below are some of the changes from 1st September 2020:

- **There will be a one-way system on the playground for dropping off and collecting children and we ask that all adults follow this system strictly. The Bow Street and Maryland Park entrances to the school will be open for entering and exiting as usual.**
- **Adhere to social distancing by the classroom doors and do not go past the yellow lines that will be in place.**
- **Only 1 parent/adult from each household is allowed to drop off and collect children; please do not arrive with friends or other family members to drop off or collect your children**
- **Only 2 adults allowed into the school office at any point. Please email the school in the first instance or call if you have a query.**
- **Children will not be allowed school bags only a packed lunch bag and a drawstring bag for their PE kit. No rucksacks will be allowed.**
- **We will have online resources for children to read at home instead of sending home reading books. Homework will also largely be through Google Classroom. We will update you with more information about this once the term starts.**
- **We will ask all children in years 1-6 to bring an empty pencil case to school that we will use to store their equipment to ensure that children are not sharing equipment. The pencil case will remain in school each day.**
- **All children will need to have a water bottle as the water fountains will not be available to drink from.**

Travelling to School

The latest advice from TfL is where possible please walk, cycle or scooter to school to help free up more space on public transport for others. As you know we have a bike shack and allocated spaces in the school to store bikes and scooters for the children. More travel advice information can be found at:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/info-for/schools-and-young-people/travel-guidance-for-schools?cid=reopeningeducation>

Newham Test & Trace Mobile App

Those of you that are Newham residents will know that Newham has been asked to trail The new Covid-19 NHS Test & Trace mobile phone app. The app has been developed by leading NHS medical experts working alongside Google and Apple. As you know Newham has experienced some of the most significant effects of coronavirus because of the health inequalities and vulnerabilities in the borough. That's why



it's important that you download the app and help test it.

You should have received letters, emails, or texts, with a unique quick response (QR) code to allow you to easily install the app on your SMART phone. Please don't ignore them. The more people that use the app the better we will be able to stop the spread of this virus.

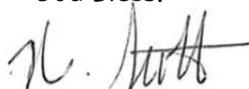
We ask that only children/parents displaying symptoms of coronavirus DO NOT enter the school premises. If you or your child have symptoms of coronavirus we will ask that you arrange for a test and share a negative result with us before your child returns to school.

Recovery/Catch-up Curriculum

Many parents will be worried about how we will support their child to ensure that they do not fall behind as they have missed direct teaching for a term. In the first half term (until the October half term break) we will be teaching the key curriculum objectives that the children need to know from the previous year. So for instance the children in year 5 will focus on the key objectives for year 4 for the first half term so we can try to ensure that they know the key concepts from the previous year. We will also be assessing the children in the first two weeks to try to focus our teaching to the concepts that most children do not know from the previous year's curriculum.

We realize that there are not quick fixes and children will need a lot of support as they return to the curriculum. I would also advise that parents have an additional routine at home of daily reading and basic Maths in order to help your child catch up from the things that they have missed. We have some online learning applications such as Education City, and Times Tables Rock Stars (TT Rock Stars) that I would strongly encourage parents to use daily. The school day is packed with learning from the time that your child enters their classroom. Unfortunately, we cannot squeeze anymore learning in so parents will have to be play a larger role with their routines at home to support their child in catching up.

God Bless.



N. Scott
Head Teacher



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