

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Primary School

Headteacher's Newsletter – February 2021



Again I would like to express my gratitude to you all for all you are doing to help your children to continue to learn at home.

I know that this is not an easy task and I know how stressful it is for you to juggle schoolwork and your own commitments. You are amazing!

We recently had a review of our Remote Learning Offer with a particular focus on maths. We were joined by our HfL Consultant who described our whole remote offer as **INSPIRATIONAL!!** I really hope that you agree with this too. Our teachers and TAs are working so hard to ensure that the children are able to continue to make progress in their learning.

The standard of the work the children are uploading on to Seesaw is of really good quality. Our children are an inspiration to us all 😊

A new request:

- All children to have their cameras **ON** when they are attending the live lessons



SMOS Children's Mental Health Week

Thank you to Mrs Newman for organising this years' event for our school. The children took part in sessions with their teachers and produced some great work based on our mental health, why it is so important to keep our mental health in good condition and how to keep mentally well. Mrs Newman will be uploading some of the children's work on to our website so keep your eyes out! www.stmargarets.luton.sch.uk

There are lots of resources for parents and children at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health>

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

Ways to support your child's mental health fitness:

- Get outside to play a game or go for a walk in the fresh air
- Talk about how they are feeling and be honest about you are feeling too – it's OK not be OK 100% of the time
- Plan an activity to do together – bake a cake, play a game, read a book, pamper day! Etc.



Online Safety Week

08-12th February 2021

During next week your children will be taking part in our Online Safety Training which will support them to stay safe when Online.

Parents will also be able to access the parent's session and resources. Mrs Newman will be sending out details soon so please check your parentmails.

ONLINE SAFETY RULES

-  Don't give your personal details like school name, your photo to anyone on internet.
-  Never meet someone you met online in real life. It can be dangerous.
-  Tell your parents if you see up-setting language, nasty pictures or if you are beign cyberbullied.
-  Be nice to people like the way you would be on playground
-  Be very careful with what you post on the internet, because it will remain on internet forever and might be misused.

There will be lots of resources to support parents and children on our website ☺

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents>

RE ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL

Our children have been working very hard on all their RE work this half term. Mrs Forde and I have been very impressed with the standard of their RE work.

They have continued to take part in weekly Gospel assemblies via Teams as well as collective worship daily, which, supports their spiritual development.

Each Tuesday the children take part in the Year of the Word assemblies where we share stories from the Old Testament.

The children have had access to the virtual prayer bag, which celebrated Epiphany and the Presentation Feast Days.

We also celebrated the anniversary of STCAT, our Trust, with a live streamed mass on Monday 01.02.21.

As we approach the liturgical time of Lent, we will be preparing the children to think of the relationship God had with Jesus. How trusting Jesus was in his Heavenly Father.

We will be thinking about the sacrifice God made for us all and thinking about what we could do during Lent, to make a difference to others.

Sister Kathleen and Sister Antoinette once told me to try to do something extra for others. So now that is what I do for Lent – I do something more for others 😊

What might you be able to do extra for others? A kind word, a phone call, a smile, support etc.

RIP Joe Borg

Joe was the Chair of Governors at SMOS for a long time. He was a generous, kind and very compassionate man. He loved our school and was a great supporter of all we did here. We send our deepest condolences to Joe's family at this difficult time.

**Eternal rest grant on to him O' Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon him,
May he rest in peace. Amen**



ROAD/CAR SAFETY



Please ensure that your child/ren are **strapped** into the car with **seatbelts**, that they are in **appropriate car seats** <https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules/when-a-child-can-travel-without-a-car-seat>. This guidance will help you know the law. Please keep your children safe when in the car

Please also remember to park safely when dropping off and collecting your child/ren. Even during lock down you must not park over neighbour's driveways or block the pavement for pedestrians.

Parents Consultations

March 10th and 11th March 2021

A date for your diaries – we will be running the consultations via Microsoft Teams. This time around, we will all be more confident in how to use it and the meetings will be seamless 😊

You will access the meeting through your child's Teams account. More details will follow after half term.



A Prayer to Combat the Coronavirus Pandemic

Most Merciful and True God,
We come to You in our weakness.
We come to You in our fear.
We come to You with trust.
For You alone are our hope.

We place before You the disease present in our world.
We turn to You in our time of need.

Bring wisdom to doctors.
Give understanding to scientists.
Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.
Bring healing to those who are ill.
Protect those who are most at risk.
Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.
Welcome those who have died into Your Eternal Home.

Stabilise our communities.
Unite us in our compassion.
Remove all fear from our hearts.
Fill us with confidence in Your care.

Jesus, I trust in You.
Jesus, I trust in You.
Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen.

Thank you for your support for our teachers
and staff during this challenging time. We
are so grateful to you for all you are doing.

Keep finding small things to smile about
and keep being kind to yourself and your
families.

One day this will all be over and we will
never take life and our freedom for granted
again!

Best wishes Mrs Somees ☺ x