



# NEWSLETTER – Friday 27th November 2020

“Grow in Faith, Have Faith in Growing”

Trust, Respect, Faith, Forgiveness, Aspiration, Determination, Curiosity

## **Dear Parents and Carers,**

Firstly, I do hope that you are all well and getting ready to adjust to life under the new tiered system. I am really aware that for some of us, home and/or work circumstances might have changed recently. If this is the case and you require some additional support in any way, please do let us know and we will do our best to help. We can support with such issues as accessing food banks, applying for free-school meals or hardship funds or signposting to mental health or other support services. We are all in this together and we will do whatever we can to help our families.

Last Thursday evening, the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust held their annual awards event to recognise the work of some of the amazing staff across our 25 schools. I am delighted to announce that Mrs O'Brien was awarded 'Best New Teacher of the Year' (awarded to a teacher within the first 3 years of their career). What a fantastic achievement! I am also pleased to announce that Mrs Young and her pastoral team (Mr Coupland, Miss Davis and Miss Januszewski) were highly commended for 'Team of the Year' and Mrs Young was also highly commended for 'Staff member of the Year – Academic and Pastoral Support'. Finally, Karan O'Connor was highly commended in the 'Governance' category and I was highly commended for 'Leadership and Management'. We are so blessed to have so many wonderful staff working at St George's.

As part of Anti-Bullying week, over the past fortnight, we have focussed on creating even more peace and harmony in our school through kind words and actions. Our Anti-Stigma Ambassadors created a wonderful act of worship to help us to understand the part we can play in making St George's a peaceful and bully-free environment. In addition to this, all classes had special RE lessons themed around the anti-bullying message. Well done to everyone involved!

The children have also been busy learning about the Jewish faith. We welcomed Eve (virtually) from the Derby Open Centre to teach us more about her Jewish faith. The children engaged really thoughtfully with the subject and asked lots of interesting questions. Class 7 led us in an assembly all about Judaism to extend the learning that had taken place that week. A big thank you to them!

To prepare us for the season of Lent, on Wednesday we took part in a whole school Advent retreat run by Dan and Emily from 'One Life Music'. Although a little earlier than usual, it was a really fun and meaningful introduction to the start of Advent - when it comes! It also stands us in great stead for our forthcoming Advent liturgy...

## **Advent Liturgy – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 9am - Years 1-6**

As we approach the season of Advent, the children have been busily preparing an amazing virtual Advent liturgy (filmed in bubbles) for you all to enjoy. We will be emailing you the link to watch on the evening of Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Years 2-6 will be playing an active part and the rest of the school will be participating.

## **Book collection for school fires**

From Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November, we will be placing collection boxes outside our 3 gates (double gates, top gate and single gate onto the KS1 playground) for reading books to be donated to the two schools (St Mary's and Ravensdale Infants). Collection baskets will be out at the start and end of each day for that week.

## **Maintaining Social Distancing at the end of the school day**

As we move into the new tiered system, we continue to require **all adults** to wear masks (unless medically exempt) during drop off and collection of pupils. Let's also make sure that we continue to:



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**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



- **Wait in zoned areas when it is your time slot to collect. Waiting in zoned areas in advance of your time slot causes unnecessary congestion on the playground and blocks the sight lines of staff.**
- **Make sure that if you have collected your first child but have another later slot to collect other siblings, please exit the playground and come back in when it is the correct time slot for your next pick up. Again, this will reduce congestion further.**
- **Whilst waiting for classes to come out, please do not allow your children to run around the playground or mix more widely whilst waiting to pick up siblings. They need to stand next to you in the correct zoned area.**
- **Only wait in the allocated zoned areas (not at tables, benches, by fences etc) as this enables children to be dismissed without meeting children from other bubbles.**

### **Adverse Weather Conditions**

Please do send your children to school with hats, gloves, coats and wellies (if possible) so that they can continue to access outdoor learning and play. Some children have been wearing hoodies to school instead of coats but these just are not warm enough. I do not anticipate that we should need to close school due to snowy conditions any time soon, but if this is ever the case, we shall contact you as close to 7am as possible on the day of closure (or earlier if possible) via a text message. Our website will also prominently display this information on our 'ticker' at the top of our homepage. Please do ensure that you have signed up for ParentMail so that you are able to receive such important messages. In snowy/icy weather, we also kindly ask that you do not drive down our road, but park on the estate and walk down.

### **Winter School Uniform – Appropriate Footwear**

In snowy/wet weather, boots may be worn to school but must be changed for school shoes before lessons begin.

### **Winter PE Kit**

Outdoor PE will still take place during the colder months, but children are allowed to wear black plain jogging bottoms and a plain sweatshirt/zip up top in their house colour. They should also wear their house t-shirt underneath. Children will require trainers as well as pumps. Please do ensure all items are labelled. Many thanks!

### **E-Safety Information – Twitch**

#### What is Twitch?

Twitch is a website where users can watch videos and live streams of other users (known as 'broadcasters'), typically playing computer games. They can also live stream themselves. The minimum age to use it is 13, but it's easy to sign up if you're younger.

#### What's the problem?

- Live streaming makes it harder to censor what people share or what language they use, so your child could be exposed to bullying content, or content that's inappropriate for their age.
- The chat function means strangers could talk to your child. Twitch is one of the main platforms used to 'groom' children (where an adult builds a relationship with a child to manipulate, exploit and abuse them)

#### 5 steps to help keep you child safe on Twitch

1. **Find out what your child is watching** - Try watching together at first, or find out what channels they're watching and research them yourself. This will help you see whether what they're watching is age appropriate.
2. **Encourage your child to only talk to people they know** - Anyone could pretend to be a child or teenager online, so encourage your child not to talk privately to people they don't know in real life. If they do talk to people they don't know, for example in group chats, tell them not to give out information that could identify them, such as their school name or the name of the street you live on.
3. **Restrict content in chat** - This will make it less likely that your child will see inappropriate content, though no filter is perfect. In browser, start watching a channel, then click the cog icon in the bottom left > under 'My





preferences' click 'Chat filters' > tick 'Enable filtering in chat' > tick the filters you want to enable. On the app, start watching a stream, then tap the video > tap the cog icon at the top right of the video > under 'Chat options' tap 'Enable filtering in chat' > tick 'Enable filtering in chat' > tick the filters you want to enable. These settings will apply to other channels too.

**4. Block private messages from strangers** - Your child can block private messages (known as 'whispers') from strangers. To do this, go to the 'Privacy' section of the 'Security and privacy' page, and tick to block messages from strangers.

**5. Make sure your child knows how to report and block people** - Twitch's community guidelines ban behaviour like threats of violence, hateful conduct and harassment, spam, and sexual content. Knowing how to report or block people breaking these rules will help your child and others stay safe.

#### Report content from a broadcaster

In the bottom right on the website, below the video player, click the 3-dot icon > click 'Report' > fill in the report form with a description of the issue.

On a mobile, the 3-dot icon is next to the 'Whisper' and 'Friend' buttons on iOS and in the top right corner on Android. Choose 'Report' > select the report reason > type a description in the description field > tap 'Send'.

#### Report and block users from chat

Click on a user's name in a chat > click the 3 dot icon > 'Report' (or 'Block') > fill in the report form. On mobile, tap on the username > select 'Report' (or 'Block') from the menu > select why you're reporting them > type in a report reason > tap 'Send'. Report and block users from whispers Click the cog button in the top right of the whisper window, and then select the most appropriate option from 'Block user' or 'Report user'.

On mobiles, tap the cog wheel next to the username you want to report or block from inside the whisper screen > select 'Report' or 'Block'. If you're reporting, you can then choose the appropriate reason.

#### What else can I do?

- Encourage your child to talk to you if someone says something upsetting or hurtful to them, or if they see something they find upsetting.
- Look for signs they may be being bullied online, like being afraid or reluctant to go to school, feeling nervous, losing confidence or becoming distressed and withdrawn, or losing sleep.
- Tell our school about any online bullying your child experiences.

#### **Parent Governor Results**

After a very closely run election, with 176 votes in total being cast, we are pleased to appoint both Mr Stone and Mr Booth to our governing body. Thank you all for taking part in the voting. I am sure that both new parent governors will play an important part in shaping the future success of the school.

#### **Remote Learning**

Earlier this term, we emailed out to you log in information for pupils in relation to the 'Busy Things' and 'Century' online learning platforms. These are our remote learning platforms and will be used when/if children need to self-isolate or in the case of a bubble closure. The 'Busy Things' platform is intended for KS1 pupils and the 'Century' platform is for KS2 pupils. Both are really engaging, fun and provide comprehensive curriculum coverage; whilst allowing work to be submitted to the class teacher. Both platforms can also be used for additional home learning should you wish. Teachers have also posted a fortnight's worth of work on the class pages, if you would rather access learning in another format. They will be posting an additional fortnight's work early next week. We are continuing to monitor which families can access online learning and the survey that went out via ParentMail to ascertain whether families have internet access and suitable devices is still open. If you have not yet completed the survey, please do so at your earliest opportunity.





**Easy Christmas Gift idea - Turning your child's Christmas art into gift items through 'My Childs Art'**

The children have been busily drawing Christmas pictures that have been uploaded onto [www.mychildsart.co.uk/order](http://www.mychildsart.co.uk/order) ready to be turned into anything from Christmas cards, to gift tags, wrapping paper, candles, jigsaws, place mats, mugs, sweet jars and cushion covers! To view or purchase, all you need is to visit the website and enter our:

**Username: StGeorges**

**Password: D72PPHRr**

All items ordered will be delivered to your home address and school will receive a percentage of the profits, which will be put towards new reading books.

**Our Christmas Plans in this 'new normal'!**

The following events will be filmed with links emailed out to the relevant families on the day of the scheduled event:

Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Key Stage 1 Nativity
<b>DATE CHANGE!</b> Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation Stage Christmas Extravaganza
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: 9am	End of Term Mass

The FS2 Christmas Crafts morning on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December will be unable to go ahead with parents in attendance. However, we fully intend to share pictures of their amazing work on class pages.

The following Christmas events will proceed as planned.

Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: All day	Christmas Jumper Day (wear with jeans) in exchange for £1 donation for our Parish
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: Lunchtime	Christmas lunch for pupils and staff
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: Afternoon	Online Christmas liturgy and celebration to be shared with all children and parents - keep an eye out for the link!

Thanks to the generosity of Miss Lewis's father, Mr Kenneth Lewis, pupils will be watching an online Pantomime with sweets and treats on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December and will have an online zoom session with the characters afterwards. Mr Lewis' kindness is greatly appreciated! ☺

**Christmas Dinner - Friday 18th December**

Christmas dinner will be served on the last day of term, Friday 18th December. All parents of Key Stage 2 children are welcome to book a Christmas dinner for their child/ren at the price of £2.20. Key Stage 1 children are already entitled to a free school meal, but do let us know if your child is ordinarily sandwiches so that we can order enough meals. If you would like to book a Christmas dinner for your child, please contact the office as soon as possible. Children who are ordinarily dinners will have already had a meal booked for them.





## Dates for your diary...

Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November: All day	Non uniform day in support of NDCYS (Briars team) in exchange for £1 donation	All pupils
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December: 9am	Advent Liturgy for Year 1-6 Pupils	Subject to consent, parents will be emailed a link to watch the liturgy online.
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December: 8:50am	Class 3 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 3 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December: INSET ALL DAY</b>	<b>INSET</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December:	Key Stage 1 Nativity	All events to be filmed and a link will be shared with the relevant families subject to permission.
<b>DATE CHANGE</b> - Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December: 2-3pm	Foundation Stage Christmas Extravaganza	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: 9am	End of Term Mass	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: All day	Christmas Jumper Day (wear with jeans) in exchange for £1 donation for our Parish	All pupils
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: Lunchtime	Christmas lunch for pupils and staff	Please see the information provided in this newsletter.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: Afternoon	Online Christmas Liturgy and Celebration	All events to be filmed and a link will be shared with the relevant families subject to permission.
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January (Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December are INSET days)</b>	<b>Christmas Holidays</b>	<b>School Closed</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021</b>	<b>All pupils return for the start of the Lent term</b>	<b>All pupils</b>
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January at 9am	Epiphany Mass	A link to the Mass will be sent out on Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January so that you can join us online
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January: 8:50am	Class 11 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 11 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> January: 8:50am	Class 5 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 5 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> January: 8:50am	Class 6 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 6 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> January: 8:50am	Class 12 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 12 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> February: 8:50am	Class 7 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 7 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> February: 8:50am	Class 9 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 9 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February: All day</b>	<b>INSET</b>	<b>School Closed</b>
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Lent Half term</b>	<b>School Closed</b>
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February: 8am	Termly Learning Conference booking goes lives	More information to follow
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February: 8:50am	Class 8 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 8 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March: 8:50am	Class 10 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 10 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March: All day	World Book Day	Dress up as your favourite book character in exchange for £1 donation towards restocking our reading shelves.
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March: 3:30-6pm for KS1 and 3:30-7:30pm for KS2	Termly Learning Conferences	These will be virtual appointments delivered through the 'School Cloud' system. More information to follow.
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March: 3:30-5.30pm for KS1 and 3:30-6pm for KS2	Termly Learning Conferences	These will be virtual appointments delivered through the 'School Cloud' system. More information to follow.
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March: 8:50am	Class 3 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 3 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> March: 8:50am	Class 4 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of Class 4 pupils will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.



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Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March: 8:50am	Class 1 and Class 2 Assembly	Subject to consent, parents of pupils in Classes 1 and 2 will be emailed a link to watch the assembly online.
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April: 9am	Easter Mass	A link to the Mass will be sent out on Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March so that you can join us online
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April: Time TBC	Colour run to raise money for Rainbows Hospice	More information to be shared closer to the time.
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Easter Holidays</b>	<b>School Closed</b>
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>All pupils return for the start of the Pentecost term</b>	<b>All pupils</b>
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May: All day</b>	<b>May Bank Holiday</b>	<b>School Closed</b>
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Key Stage 2 SATs Week	All Year 6 pupils
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Key Stage 1 SATs Week	All year 2 pupils
<b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Pentecost Half term</b>	<b>School Closed</b>
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2021 – Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September (Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September is an INSET day)	Summer Holidays	School Closed
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2021: All Day	Return to school for the start of Advent term FS2 pupils to be in for mornings only for the first week	All pupils



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