



St. Joseph's RC High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant

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Headteacher/Pennaeth: Mrs J Jarrett BA(Hons) M.A NPQH

1st April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to begin by thanking you for your continuing commitment to your child's education and for working with us as we find a new way of working and learning together.

During these challenging times, it has never been more important to ensure that our spiritual, mental and emotional wellbeing is nurtured along with academic studies. Next week is Holy Week and this is a time for us to focus on our spiritual wellbeing, preparing ourselves for Easter, the Catholic Church's most important celebration. On our school website, under 'Academic', as well as our Distance Learning page, you will find a Prayer Resources page and a Health and Wellbeing page.

On the Prayer Resources page, you will find short reflections which help children to pray and reflect during Lent. There is also a copy of our Passiontide Service, which takes children through Holy Week, explaining the story of the events which led to the crucifixion of Christ. These resources will hopefully provide you and your child with what they need to maintain their spiritual wellbeing.

It is also vital that your child remembers the importance of maintaining their mental and physical health and wellbeing. On the Health and Wellbeing page, you will find a wide range of links to websites, YouTube channels, apps and twitter feeds to support your child's mental and physical health and wellbeing. This page also has a link to **Talkzone** which is a counselling service to support children and young people. At the moment, this service has been extended and hours available are also listed on the Health and Wellbeing page.

As a school, we are mindful that families are still adapting to a new way of working and living and we don't want to overwhelm you with unmanageable tasks or huge amounts of information. We believe that there are currently enough activities and assignments for pupils to be undertaking until and into the Easter holidays and it is important that pupils have some holiday time to recharge and to relax. This means that from Monday 6th April until Friday 17th April, no further work will be posted on Google Classroom to provide time for your child to enjoy their Easter holidays. Please be reassured, however, that from Monday 20th April, all departments will continue to provide work and feedback to all pupils, working with you to support your child's learning.

For our students in Years 11 and 13, we are currently working on developing some suggested reading and resources to help them prepare for the next stage of their learning, whether post 16 study, higher education or employment. I will be letting you know of these opportunities as soon as they become available.

'Serving God Through Learning Together'

'Yn gwasanaethu Duw trwy ddysgu gyda'n gilydd'

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For this last week of study before the Easter holidays, I would be grateful if you would remind your child of the importance of using their timetable to structure their learning and only post messages to teachers during the hour they would normally be timetabled in that lesson. Work should only be submitted between 9.00am and 3.30pm. This means that your child can maintain some balance between their studies and their relaxation time. This also enables teachers to provide prompt and accurate feedback and prepare the next section of learning they will provide your child.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy and holy Easter break. You and your families will remain in my thoughts and prayers during this time and I look forward to continuing to work with you as we progress through these difficult times as a school community.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Jarrett
Headteacher

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