



OUR LADY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust A Catholic Academy

Old Hale Way, Hitchin, Herts, SG5 1XT

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Tel: 01462 622555

Head Teacher: Ciara Nicholson NPQH

22nd October 2020

Dear Parents,

Having been back in school for half a term, the leadership and staff of the school would like to thank you all for all your support with our response to the Coronavirus pandemic. We are delighted that most days we have had full pupil and staff attendance and we haven't, as yet, needed to send any bubble home to isolate. Whilst we appreciate many factors remain beyond our control, the protective measures that we have put into place have proved to be very successful in maintaining the smooth running and continued opening of the school; so far one in five schools have closed or partially closed nationally and so it is not just good luck on our part! Thank you for the combined effort from everyone.

In the near future, the Governing Body will meet to review the wider measures we have in place and in doing so, we would like to invite feedback from the parent body. We would really appreciate if you could spend a few minutes completing our short survey as we would welcome your insight. Please respond by Monday 2nd November and you can expect an update from the Chair in due course. One response per family is all that we require, please leave your name and child's year group if you provide any additional comments.

<https://forms.gle/4ggomR77N4P7mQk27>

As an attachment to this e-mail, we have included our remote learning offer and some guidance/advice to parents who have children working from home. Please read carefully so that you know what to expect from us in the event of your child learning from home.

In the meantime, there are a few tweaks to the daily routine we would like to make sooner rather later:

Morning Drop offs

Everyone is now into the routine of the early morning drop off and as it is going so smoothly, we would like to adjust the time for Yr 3 and 4 pupils so that they can enter from 8.50am-9am (5 minutes earlier). Hopefully this will avoid less congregating on the pavement, whilst still allowing EY/KS1 and Yrs 5 and 6 children a ten minute window to come in (8.40am-8.50am).

Lunchtime

Again, the children have adapted beautifully to the change of routine in the dining hall and are now much quicker and more familiar with the hygiene protocols. We are now in a position to proceed with offering hot meals to all from 2nd November. The entry of bubbles





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will be staggered from 11.45am in half hour slots to allow each Key Stage 20-25 minutes to eat lunch and 5 minutes for cleaning before the next bubble enters. The children will have 20-25 minutes of outdoor play, depending on when they finish their lunch. Lunchtime supervision will include 6-7 adults allocated to each bubble depending on the day of the week and at least two senior leaders will be on lunch duty each day. Please book your hot meals via the online booking system you have been using this half term. The children will be allowed to use the field for playtime so please send in wellies if you wish for your child to change shoes.

Thank you once again for efforts to date to support your child and the staff in school with the reintegration to the new term. We very much for continued success in the run up to Christmas.

Have a lovely half term,

Kind regards,
Ciara Nicholson
Headteacher

