



**St. John the Baptist  
Catholic Primary School**

*We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord*



*"I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me as you have said" Luke 1:38*

# Newsletter

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 20.03.20

*Faith-filled*

*and*

*Hopeful*

## Partial School Closure

We officially confirm that St. John the Baptist Catholic Primary School will be partially closed from the end of the school day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020. From Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, school will be open to the children of key workers, those with EHCPs and those officially deemed as 'vulnerable' **only**.

**If eligible you will have received an additional letter today to confirm that your child meets the above criteria and will be attending school on Monday.**

For all other children who will remain at home Government advice is **"Parents should do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults."**

To assist with home learning, we currently have a wide selection of home learning packs and useful website links on our school website – [www.sjb.solihull.sch.uk](http://www.sjb.solihull.sch.uk)

Next Friday – 27<sup>th</sup> March, we will upload our first weekly learning pack. This will give you a suggested timetable and three learning opportunities to follow each day. These packs will be for every year group and are intended to support you at home in establishing some daily educational routines and expectations. You will receive a reminder text each Friday, indicating that a new weekly learning pack has been uploaded.

All learning materials are very easy to locate on our website. Simply look for the top bar on our home page labelled 'Home Learning Ideas' and click on to that link. (If you wish to 'dip' in to more or less challenging activities for your child, please feel free to look at learning packs designed for year groups above or below that of your child's.)

We do not know how long our school will remain under partial closure. It may be that we are saying goodbye to children in our Year Six today. We hope to see them back in school as normal before the end of the school year, however if circumstances do not allow for this, we would like to take the opportunity now to wish them good luck for the future.



Twinkl is an online educational site with lots of education resources, games and ebooks. Twinkl have very kindly offered access to their site for a month for all teachers, parents and carers.

To access the special offer follow the link [www.twinkl.co.uk/offer](http://www.twinkl.co.uk/offer) and use the offer code CVDTWINKLHELPS If you head to <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/parents> you will find hundreds of educational activities designed for use at home.

## Early Years - Thank You



A former pupil Jake Haynes completed his work experience in Early Years this half term. Look at what he made for the children, he designed and created a puppet theatre all by himself, very impressive. The children would like to say a massive 'Thank you' to you Jake. They are all enjoying the experience of creating their own imaginative play.

## Feeling Safe

Out of school hours please see useful contact for free and safe advice and guidance. If you are in immediate danger, call 999.

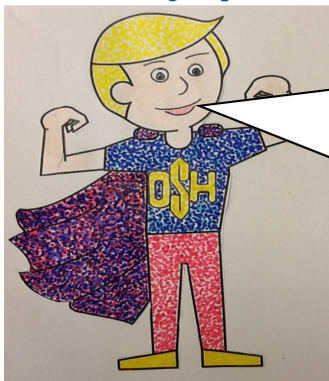
Childline: 08001111

Kooth: kooth.com

Samaritans: 116113

## Online Safety - tip of the week!

*Online safety hero says...*



*Don't always believe what you read on the internet. Check three websites to see if it is true.*

*#fakenews*

*#checkbeforeyoushare*



### ***Birthdays***



Happy birthday this week to: Chloe-Anne O'M, Charlie H and Tyler-James C.

We would also like to wish a happy birthday to those children who celebrate their birthday during the school closure: Lilly Mac, Leo R, Olivia K, Christian K., Danyal-Lee T, Tady L, Ren D, Mason N, Scarlett H, Lacey Mae S, Hydrie P, Kane S, Laikyn R, Chloe M, Halina B, Lexi S, Alfie B and Jenson-Jay N.

## Urgent: changes to the opening hours at Solihull Minor Injuries Unit (MIU)



As you will be aware, the NHS is currently facing an unprecedented situation regarding the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic.

Due to the very low number of patients attending the Solihull MIU between 10pm and 7am (less than ten people), the decision has been made to temporarily close this service between these hours.

This will happen from **10pm on Wednesday 18 March 2020**.

This means that the staff who currently work at Solihull MIU can be redeployed to other accident and emergency departments. This is important and helps us to maintain safe staffing levels, due to increasing numbers of NHS staff who are self-isolating, due to the recent national advice.

For those patients who require urgent medical help between 10pm and 8am, and who would have attended the MIU, there are a number of options:

- Contact NHS 111 – either online (<https://111.nhs.uk/>) or by phone (available 24/7 and free to call)
- Use the Ask A&E app (<https://www.uhb.nhs.uk/ask>)
- Return to the MIU at 7am, when it re-opens
- Travel to their nearest accident and emergency department (life threatening situations only e.g. loss of consciousness, persistent chest pain, breathing difficulties, severe bleeding or severe allergic reactions)
- Dial 999 (life threatening situations only e.g. loss of consciousness, persistent chest pain, breathing difficulties, severe bleeding or severe allergic reactions).

Signage at the Solihull Hospital site and MIU will advise patients, who attend between 10pm and 7am, of these options.

We will advise you when the service returns to its usual opening hours. If you have any questions about this, please contact Theresa Price at University Hospitals Birmingham, on 0121 424 2842.

Many thanks for your co-operation, at this challenging time.

**University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust**

**NHS Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group**

## Financial Support & Assistance for Families

Any families requiring information around financial support and assistance please follow website link <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/benefits>

This website covers financial support and assistance with housing benefit, council tax support, information regarding welfare reforms including how to make a claim for universal credit.

The website also has 'support to success' information which signposts to organisations who can help with various issues including debt management and budgeting.

Lorraine Lord (Senior Education Safeguarding Officer) Joanne Robinson (Head of Income and Awards)

As it might be a while till we join as a whole school community again, I have selected some prayers that we may still wish to share together. Prayers to protect those closest to us and for those who will be selflessly helping us in the forthcoming months.

### **A Prayer for World Health**

For the many children, women, and men whose lives have been saved through global cooperation, God, we praise You.

For the many who are suffering around the world,

God, we beg Your blessing.

For the progress in people's health made possible by technology and creativity,

God, we praise You.

For the continued grace You pour into our world,

God, we praise You.

As we labour to improve the health of those in this world, may our notes of petition always end in a song of praise. Amen.

### **A Prayer for Your Child's Health**

Father, thank you that You have blessed my children with whole and healthy bodies. You have knit them together beautifully and perfectly in Your sight. You know them inside and out, to the most minute detail. I praise You, Father, for their lives.

Lord I pray that You would protect and strengthen their bodies against any harmful invasions of disease, sicknesses. Where there may be any weakness or potential vulnerability in their bodies, protect and reinforce their bodies with health and strength. Father, I pray You would also motivate each of my children to care for their body in a manner that promotes health and is well-pleasing to You. In Jesus' mighty name, Amen.

### **A Prayer for Our Older Relatives**

Gracious God, we ask you to bless especially your children who have grown old. When they can no longer care for themselves, send them loving caretakers who appreciate their wisdom and the richness of their experience. Send your angels to keep them safe as long as they live and to lead them home to you when their work is done. Bless the families of the elderly with insight and good judgment. Send your Holy Spirit to help them make wise decisions, and grant them the patience to care for those who once cared for them. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen

### **A Prayer for Doctors and Nurses**

O merciful Father, who have wonderfully fashioned man in your own image, and have made his body to be a temple of the Holy Spirit, sanctify, we pray you, our doctors and nurses and all those whom you have called to study and practice the arts of healing the sick and the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them in body and soul, and bless their work, that they may give comfort to those for whose salvation your Son became Man, lived on this earth, healed the sick, and suffered and died on the Cross. Amen.

Wishing you and your families continued good health

God bless

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