



## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2021

**Please be advised that all school documentation is available in different formats, on request.**

### NEW SCHOOL YEAR

We hope that everyone had a lovely summer. Another school year begins; let's hope it's a good one.

Ms Sloane sends her thanks for all the gifts and cards she received on her EARLY retirement, and I am sure you will join me in wishing Mr Morris every success in his new role as Head of School.

Welcome to all the new pupils and staff (Miss Dunn and Mr Kelly) who have joined us. We look forward to them becoming part of our wonderful school community.

### UNIFORM

The children look so neat and smart on their return to school. Thank you. Please conform to the rules regarding school uniform for the remainder of the year. PE is a compulsory subject of the curriculum. School PE kits are required for PE lessons. No football kits please! Track suits are encouraged to be worn on the day of PE lessons to save time.

The last 2 years have been hard for everyone, but we got through it. We all want our children to do their best throughout this academic year, as we play "catch up". We want them to be successful in their achievements, so we hope that you will continue to support them with any work that they bring home and ensure that they read for at least ten minutes each evening. Once they have read, please remember to sign their reading record book.

### RE TOPIC:

The children will be studying the Domestic Church/Family topic; as always, it would be beneficial for our children to attend weekly mass and witness the workings of the Church and its features during this topic. Lessons will focus on life as a gift, our uniqueness as a loved creation and the love that can be expressed in families.

### SCHOOL PROCEDURES

The Department of Education (DfE) has informed schools that we can return to some level of "normality" but that we have to operate on the understanding that the virus has not gone away. We will return to some procedures that we followed before the pandemic but others will continue (such as frequent hand washing and wiping down of frequently touched surfaces). We have to risk assess all activities in school and if some (such as whole school singing in the hall) are too likely to spread infection, we will not undertake them for now. I want to reassure parents that we will try our best within school to prevent cross infection. We will continue with the same procedures as last year for entering and exiting school.



# HOLY NAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Self-isolation

The regulations concerning the need to self-isolate for close contacts of positive cases have changed. Please note that adults who have received both vaccinations and children under the age of 18 years and 6 months no longer have to automatically isolate if they have been in contact with a positive case **UNLESS THEY HAVE SYMPTOMS** of Covid. This means that children do not have to miss school if there is a case in their household or classes/staff will not be necessarily sent home if a positive case is reported in school. They should only miss school if they are symptomatic themselves. This should mean less disruption to education.

If any children are symptomatic, families should book a PCR test. They can return to school on receipt of a negative test result. If they test positive, they should isolate for 10 days beginning from the date of onset of symptoms or the date of test if they are asymptomatic.

## Wearing of Masks

Liverpool City Council has asked schools to request families collecting/dropping-off children to continue to wear a mask if the area around collection/drop-off points become crowded. We will continue to ask family members and other visitors to school to wear a mask inside the school building unless they are medically exempt.

**BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB** will resume immediately.

## ATTENDANCE

Both the Department of Education nationally and Liverpool City Council locally are placing a huge emphasis on attendance and punctuality this year because of the amount of school time lost to the pandemic. The DfE has asked schools to remind parents that it is **“a parent’s duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at school”** and **“schools and local authorities (have the ability) to issue sanctions including fixed penalty notices.”**

**Schools in Liverpool are being reminded that regular absenteeism and lateness is a safeguarding issue and can be evidence of neglect. We are being encouraged to engage with other agencies (such as Social Workers, Health or even the Police) to help tackle regular absenteeism and lateness in school.**

Please see the paragraph above about isolation as children who miss school because they have been in contact with a positive case will be recorded as unauthorised absence if they are not symptomatic themselves or are awaiting a PCR test result.

We **MUST** achieve the 97% attendance target set by the Government. Our families did extremely well in the years prior to Covid to improve attendance as a school, so please continue to support us in this matter and give our children the best chance to make progress.

## CONTACT DETAILS, CONSENT FORMS AND MEDICAL FORMS

We cannot stress enough how important it is that school is able to contact families in an emergency, that we have your consent for photographs and have up to date information regarding children’s medical conditions. Forms will be sent soon and I urge you to complete and return to school as soon as possible.

We would also ask that if any of your contact details change throughout the year, you make the school aware of this.

**Success Takes Application, Resilience & Stickability**  
**“Shine Like the STARS!”**



# HOLY NAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AND BOOSTER CLASSES

We hope to reinstate after school clubs and booster classes at some point, perhaps even this term. However, we will have to limit numbers so that we can be Covid safe and meet the obligations of our Risk Assessment. When we do get to reinstating clubs and boosters, it will be on a first come-first served basis.

## SCHOOL LUNCHES

If your child has transitioned from Year 2 to Year 3 and you believe that you are entitled to free school meals, the onus is on parents/carers to make an application to the council for free school meals. The school cannot make this application on your behalf and you must pay for meals or provide a packed lunch while the application is processed.

If you believe that your child is eligible for free school meals please make an application to the local authority (even if your child is in KS1) as the school receives extra funding for all pupils entitled to free meals.

Payments for school lunches must be received each Monday for meals to be eaten that week. An external company provides the meals and school cannot afford to pay costs on behalf of families. **Debts will not be allowed to be accrued for longer than one week. Please do not cause the school embarrassment by having to say that we cannot provide a meal due to outstanding debts.** Parents who owe outstanding money from the last academic year should contact the office to make arrangements for payment.

## DOJO

If you haven't already done so, please consider signing up for this App. It's an efficient and eco-friendly way of school communicating with families.

## WEBSITE

We ask that you check the website on a regular basis for updated information. If you have any ideas for information you would like to see that is not at present available, please do not hesitate to contact us. All reasonable requests will be considered. We try to update it as quickly as we can and all newsletters that are sent out are posted on the website

## MARRIAGE & FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM (Archdiocese)

This is offered by Jackie Brougham who can be contacted on  
Tel: 0789 179 5145 or by Email: jackiebrougham@btinternet.com

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