



# St. Edmund's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs. Jackie Johnstone, B.Ed Hons

Deputy Headteacher: Mr. Patrick Kenny, BA

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear parents / carers,

## Holy Week

As we are in school for Holy week this year we are very fortunate to experience prayer and Mass as a school community.

On **Friday** last week we joined over 90,000 children and young people from the Diocese of Westminster for Mass held in the Crypt of Westminster Cathedral. This was celebrated by Fr Chris Vipers, who some of you might remember from his time based at St. Edmund's Church. The children came away with the reinforcement of their beauty and the idea that they were God's work of Art.

You can watch the Mass by clicking the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fkxsXind5DY>

On **Monday** Fr Emmanuel and Fr Noel spoke and sang to the children. Their message was about the importance of hard work and perseverance which will lead to success. You can watch this on our school website by going to Our Learning – Catholic Life – Prayers – Fr Emmanuel.

On **Tuesday** the children all watched a video message from His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. He sent a message to express his gratitude to the staff, governors and pupils in our school communities for the support, resilience, accomplishments and hope for the future.

You can watch this message by clicking the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZhe7WKW0EE>

On **Thursday** we will be all be together following the Stations of the Cross. We will have time to reflect together on the journey Jesus took to the cross.

You can follow these Stations of the Cross by clicking the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNOXkb8uq6g&t=280s>

## Chrome Books and Tablets

Thank you to all those parents/carers who have returned Chrome Books and tablets. Please can I just remind the few that are still outstanding that we need them back in school before the Easter Holiday. Please return them to the school office, clearly marked with your child's name and class.



## **Regular Tests available for Parents/Carers**

I would like to remind you that the Government have extended access to Lateral Flow Tests (LFT). All school staff take two LFT each week.

Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take twice-weekly at home:

- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

You can now access these on line on this link -<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus.

## **Collection at Hometown**

We will need to continue with our drop off and collection systems after the holidays. Please remember that when you come onto school premises at the end of the day you must wear a mask as a preventative measure in helping to stop the spread of COVID.

Please line up outside of the relevant gate, socially distancing from those around you and DO NOT save spaces for other parents. Parents must join the queue as they arrive and not join in with friends nearer to the front of the queue.

When you leave the school premises please move away from the school immediately and do not stop to chat outside the school gates.

After the Easter holidays there will be some building work taking place on our boundary wall on the corner of Bounces Road and Hertford Road. This will cause us some disruption but the builders will stop work at home time to allow parents to pass.



## Easter Holidays

We finish school on **Thursday at 1 o'clock** and return to school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support this year. It has not been an easy start to 2021 but I really believe that with the vaccination programme proving to be such a success we are moving towards a brighter future.

On behalf of all the school staff I would like to wish you all a very happy and Holy Easter.

Kind regards

*J Johnstone*

Mrs. Johnstone  
Headteacher

