

Parent update 5.11.2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all safe and well. It's lovely to have the children back in school after the holidays.

There are a number of news items – so please read on.

Safety Measures

We will continue with the same safety measures to reduce the risk of Covid that we have had in place since September.

Staggered start and finish times – We still have a small number of parents coming to both the office door and through the back gate before their allocated time. This creates additional risk for other families outside and makes things difficult for staff inside. In Years 5&6 children whose surnames are M-Z will be upstairs until 3.05pm so asking for them at the door before that time creates additional work for staff.

The one way system - Please continue to use the one way system. I know the one of the paths is very muddy; unfortunately it is outside the school grounds. There is a longer way round if you don't want to use it. I have contacted the council to ask them to repair / resurface it but had no response yet; and I have started to go out and check for dog muck in the morning. We can raise funds to buy gravel as a community but we can't ask parents to help us put it down as that would be breaking lockdown rules. Please be assured I am trying to improve this issue. People who are going the wrong way up the "inside" path are increasing the covid risk to themselves and other families they pass.

Bringing items to school - Please ensure the children bring **only** their reading books and packed lunches to school. Hats and gloves can come in too, if they can be put in sleeves / pockets when the coats are hung up. Packed lunches should be disposable. Any "smuggled" items found will be kept in school until the end of term.

Hot school dinners – This week we have trialled a hot option with the school lunches, the children have loved it. *Many thanks to our wonderful kitchen staff!* Parents may want to consider going back to school dinners now the hot option each day is available. Please email contact@st-johnbosco.manchester.sch.uk to let us know if you wish your child to change.

PE Kits - Please send your children into school in their PE kits ie plain black shorts or joggers, white t-shirt and red school jumper. **Please don't send children in other sportswear or tracksuits.**

Communication with school and one another

Unfortunately, there have been a few incidents this week of parents being rude to staff or to each other. This isn't acceptable. Please be mindful that our children learn predominantly from what they see and hear. These are difficult times for us all; none of us knows what each of us is dealing with behind closed doors. Please take

a minute to think before speaking and hopefully we can get through the lockdown, caring for one another in a supportive way.

Communication with school will continue to be paperless. We will be switching to message via *School Spider* instead of texts this term, so please make sure you have the app on your phone.

Nasal Flu Vaccine - Please see attached your link to consent or decline for this year's nasal flu vaccinations

<https://www.nhsimms.uk/FLU/information?Id=105530&Type=FLU> The link will close 13/11/20 If you have any questions or queries please call the vaccination team on 0333 358 3397.

Year 5 Parents' evening – will take place on Wednesday 11th November from 2pm to 6pm. Parents will receive an email to set up their logins on the School Spider App (you may have already done this). Once this is done, you will be able to book a parents evening appointment via the School Spider App. Unfortunately, the link is only live for an hour so we will send the email twice. Once tonight at 5.30pm and once tomorrow at 9.30am.

Pupils in St Bernadette's house may wear their own clothes tomorrow Friday 6th November as they were the house-point winners for the first half term.

Thank you for your understanding and support of school. These are difficult times for everyone. Please be assured the safety and wellbeing of our children is at the heart of all we do.

With love and prayers,
Mrs Johnson