



Parents' Update: Friday 5th March

Dear Parents,

Pope Francis' prayer request for March is for the challenges of humanity and mission of the church

Evangelisation - Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth this Lent, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

This will be the last lockdown information letter update from me for the time being. Next time, we will revert back to the usual school newsletter. Hopefully, these updates have kept you informed of things that are happening at the school during this lockdown period.

Hopefully by now, you have read the return to school guidance and you are familiar with all of the logistics involved. I cannot express to you enough how important it will be that everybody conforms to all of the safety, social distancing and organisational elements involved in bringing the children back to school. These include one adult from the family being on premises, people managing social distancing and, above all wearing a face covering, and correctly, whilst on premises.

We are really looking forward to welcoming all of the children back into school and returning to some form of (new) normality. We have been looking at all of the best practices that we have used during remote learning and building upon the excellent work that the teachers and support staff have provided since January. How you have supported your children has also been amazing, so we thank you and know that you will be continuing to support your child in his or her learning from this point forward.

Celebrating the Gospel. Remembering Lent.

With regards to this week's [Wednesday Word](#), I encourage all of you to look at the reading and tasks, because our school assembly on Monday will be focusing upon the friendship of St Paul and St Barnabas as opposed to the weekend's Gospel reading. The focus upon SS Paul and Barnabas is part of our "return to school" task – hence the assembly focus.

It is great to see so many of you with water droplets in your windows (as evidenced through [Instagram](#)) so do keep going with your Walk for Water challenge. As a reminder, we have a [Just Giving](#) page on behalf of the school to bring our community together in almsgiving (and fitness) during the Lenten period.

A date for your diary – we will be holding a mufti day to support the Walk for Water campaign on **Friday 26th March**. The theme will be to dress up in whatever shade or shades of blue, or as a water droplet – in fact, anything within this theme to raise awareness of the need for clean water around the world. We will send more details shortly.

Hot Chocolate Friday

Well done to all of the winners [this week](#). The certificates and hot chocolate sachets are on their way to you.

SS Peter and Paul "Big Book Bash" 12th March

Don't forget our own celebration of World Book Day here at the school on Friday 12th March. We are looking forward to seeing as many of the children as possible dressed up – with prizes for creativity and originality!



Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff

Around one in three people with COVID-19 do not show symptoms, but can still pass it on to others. The government has announced a new initiative to regularly test people without Covid symptoms, to help stop the spread of the virus.

The government is making rapid lateral flow testing available for adults who have primary and secondary age children in their household, their childcare or their support bubble. *This is only to be used for adults who do not have covert symptoms.*

Our staff have been participating in regular rapid lateral flow testing since the end of January. Please follow [this link](#) to more information, including how to order the tests. We would encourage you to seriously consider participating in this testing initiative, to further protect our school's community from the spread of Covid.

Available Food Support

Our usual reminder, the Power Centre Church, in the centre of Mitcham (where MacDonald's used to be) is offering food to local people and families every Thursday between 10.00 - 2.00. Of course, donations there are always welcome too. Follow [this link](#) for contact.

Wishing all of our families a lovely weekend and looking forward to seeing you all next week, managing social distancing and staying safe.

With all God's blessings,

David Hennessey
Headteacher

