

# ST. LEO'S AND SOUTHMEAD CATHOLIC NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Weekly Newsletter

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**WELCOME BACK!!!!**

It was so lovely to see all of our children back in school on Monday, it is amazing how much they have grown over the summer! Also, welcome to our new Reception Class families - we are so happy that you chose St Leo's for your child's school and are excited to go on this journey with you!

### **New Covid Measures**

The Government have now advised that children under the age of 18 and adults who have been double jabbed do not need to isolate if they are in contact with a positive case of COVID or even if they live with somebody who has COVID! I do know that there are differing views on this and we are doing all we can in school to continue to minimise the risk within our community.

From now on, if we have a positive case of COVID in school (staff member or child) we will send home a 'warn and inform' letter to the classes effected. This is so that you can keep a close eye on your own child for any symptoms....if they have symptoms they still have to isolate for 10 days or until a negative PCR result comes back. Please note that although headache, cough and temperature are the main symptom to look for, we do know of quite a few cases of children who started with a sore throat! Please also make sure you are doing your twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests at home which are free to order from:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

### **George Howard Centre Car Park**

Following a lengthy meeting this week with Whiston Town Council representatives and Knowsley Highways, it has been agreed that the Community Centre Car Park will now remain open each morning and afternoon for parents to park for drop off and collection times at the start and end of each day. This will be reviewed in the October Town Council Meeting. This is a huge breakthrough and we are very appreciative as it now means our children can enter and leave school in a safer environment!

However....there is one change which we now have to consider! School have been asked to pay £12 a day in order for parents to use the car park. This equates to £360 until the meeting in October when a final decision will be agreed. This is a cost which unfortunately will take away from the funds we have to support the education of our children! We are also conscious that if this arrangement remains in place that there will be further charges for the rest of the year. Therefore, we are asking parents who go to school to please make a donation of £3 to help with this cost, we may ask for further donations if more charges are put in place after the October meeting! We appreciate that this is not the ideal solution, however it is better than having no car park at all! Once again, thank you for your help and understanding with this!

### **Breakfast and After School Club**

If you would like to use any of our clubs, it is really important that you book in via the school office with at least 24 hours notice. Our clubs are now very popular and we are having to ensure we are still meeting social distancing guidelines. Please ensure you pay the balance for both clubs on the first day of your child's attendance for each week, If payments are not made and large amounts are owed, we will be forced to refuse you access to the clubs.

### **School Gates**

As you are aware, our school pedestrian gates are currently now working. They were jammed on Monday due to a parent pushing it whilst it was opening - this has jammed the mechanism and need to be repaired at a cost of £200 to the school. Please DO NOT try to force the gates pen, we know that they are slow but this is a safety feature so that they do not trap children in them!

### **Colomendy**

Our Year 5 and 6 children are travelling to Colomendy next Friday for a weekend of fun and games in the great outdoors. We are all very excited about this as it has been postponed so many times due to COVID. Keep an eye out on Dojo for all of the wonderful pictures of them having fun and making valuable memories!

### **Coffee Meetings**

Coffee Mornings and afternoons for parents will be taking place next week. This is a really good opportunity for you to meet your child's new class teacher and to find out a lot of key information for the rest of the year. All meetings will be in the school hall where we can socially distance properly.

The times are:

- Year 1: Monday 13th September - 9am
- Year 2: Thursday 16th September - 9am
- Year 3: Tuesday 14th September - 9am
- Year 4: Thursday 16th September - 2.30pm
- Year 5: Wednesday 15th September - 2.30pm
- Year 6 : Wednesday 15th September - 9am

### **Donation Request**

After Half Term we will be starting a baby and toddler group for our families to attend if would like to! It will be held in the school hall each Friday from 9am-10.30am. Mrs Sambor will be running the club and is excited to spend time with all of our St Leo's Babies and their parents!

Before we go out and spend a lot of money on new toys and activities, we would like to first ask if any of our parents have items that we could have - these would need to be in very good condition and fully working. We need things from new born to age 3. Items such as walkers, activity centres, interactive toys would be perfect! If we get too many of one item we may have to refuse a donation - please do not be offended if this happens but we simply do not have room to store more than what we need.

Any donations can be brought to the school office for myself and Mrs Sambor to collect.

### **Birthday Books**

This year, rather than bringing in a cake, we are asking parents to bring in a brand new book for their child's class library that can be enjoyed by all of the children. Your child's book will have their name and birthday written inside so that everybody who has the pleasure of reading it knows that it was brought in by them! If you do bring cake in we will not share it between the children and instead send it home with you at the end of the day.