

St Philip's Catholic Primary School

Learning and working together through Christ

2nd April 2020

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

I hope that this message finds you and your families well and keeping safe. You have all been in our thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time we are experiencing and we thank you for all that you are doing to help by staying at home with your families or on the frontline in the response to fighting the coronavirus to keep us all safe.

Each week your child's class teacher will post the next week's learning activities on our school website and on the class emails that are sent to you by your child's class teacher. You will find the work for your child on the home learning section of the school website:

<https://www.st-philips.sandwell.sch.uk>

Thank you again for your efforts with the home learning packs and resources we sent home last week and this week. My main message with regard to this new way of working would be this:

Please don't worry or feel stressed out about completing set activities each day, especially in the early days of this strange situation. It will take some time to adapt to this new way of working and at the moment your children's (and your own) wellbeing should be at the heart of everything you do. I know that some of the online learning platforms have struggled to cope with demand this week and been rather slow as a result. I also realise that many households may only have one laptop or screen to use for the online activities and this may prove difficult if you are working from home yourself.

The key things to focus on would always be reading with your child and hearing your child read, practicing times tables and number bonds/playing maths games, and a little bit of writing practice (writing for a purpose is always better e.g. letters to friends, book reviews, diaries etc).

Your class teachers will keep you going with ideas but please do not feel under pressure to complete everything that is set.

I just want to remind you of the virtues that we have been focusing on in school this half term as they seem even more appropriate and relevant at this moment. The children were being encouraged to be more 'Faith-Filled and Hopeful' whilst we were still at school and now more than ever these virtues are very important to hold in our hearts. I ask all the children to have faith that we are still surrounded by God's love and be hopeful that it will not be too long until things return to normal and we are reunited as a school community at St Philip's School.

During this extraordinary time we are experiencing please be assured that we are here to help you. If you are struggling with any hardships then please call St Hubert's on 0121 422 2629 or email the office email on our school website and we will endeavour to help and support you and your families.

I will continue to try and keep in touch regularly and will look into new ways to do this as the days and weeks pass by. Enjoy your weekends, thank you for all your hard work and support this week and I will continue to keep you all in my prayers.

Take care and God bless,

Mrs Hinton
Headteacher



Messenger Road
Smethwick
West Midlands
B66 3DU

Tel: 0121 558 1643
Fax: 0121 558 9198
headteacher@st-philips.sandwell.sch.uk
Headteacher - Mrs C Hinton
Chair of Governors - Mr S Godber