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Dear parents,

I hope that you have had a restful Easter break despite the challenging times. I am writing to remind parents that school remains closed with the exception of children from key worker families where there is no alternative. Learning activities will once again be presented on DB Primary by the class teachers for all children.

We all need to play our part in preserving life and following guidelines for the greater good of society. We are proud at St George's school, through our willing and dedicated staff team, to fulfil our role of caring for the children of key workers to allow them to perform their vital everyday jobs.

I must stress that school remains open **only** for those children of key workers who have **no choice**.

*"Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors....many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. **And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.**"*

In this time of national emergency, we are a last-resort childcare. We are not able to admit children to make it easier for others to work from home – if a child can be at home, then they should be at home. To send them to school when there is an alternative, no matter how inconvenient, is posing a major health risk to both the child and others that they come into contact with. Staying at home limits the chance of the virus spreading.

Thank you to those parents, many of them keyworkers, who have arranged alternative childcare so that the social distancing strategy can be effective. If we have a large number of children at school, we are not adhering to social distancing requirements, which will affect all of us.



A Prayer to Share

We continue to pray for those members of our community who have been affected by the Coronavirus outbreak. Please find a prayer below for your own contemplation, or to share with your family.

A prayer for times of isolation

'For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come... will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.' (Romans 8:38-39)

*God of heaven and earth,
in these times of isolation,
apart from loved ones
distant from friends
away from neighbours
thank you that there is nothing
in all of creation,
not even coronavirus,
that is able to separate us from your love.*

*And may your love that never fails
continue to be shared
through the kindness of strangers
looking out for each other,
for neighbours near and far
all recognising our shared vulnerability,
each of us grateful for every breath,
and willing everyone to know the gift
of a full and healthy life.
Keep us all in your care.
Amen.*

Yours Sincerely,

Mr P O'Rourke
Headteacher