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Wednesday 6 May 2020

Dear parents,

May is the month dedicated to Our Lady. To celebrate this, we have launched a 'Catholic Life of the School' page on DB Primary. Thank you to Mrs Williams for all her hard work on this, particularly the digital version of the Rosary which children and parents can share and use to pray together at home. This page offers an opportunity for spiritual reflection for us all; staff, parents and children during this period of school closure.

VE Day

This year marks the 75th anniversary of one of the most important dates in history. Since 1945, May 8 has been Victory in Europe (VE) Day. It celebrates the surrender of Nazi Germany to the Allied forces and the end of World War Two in Europe. A short educational BBC film explaining the importance of VE Day for children can be found by following this link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-ve-day/z7xtmfr>

A reminder that the bank holiday to celebrate VE Day is on Friday 8 May. School will be closed to all pupils on that day.



Governors

A message from Mr Blundell, our Chair of Governors

Paddy McCaffrey completed her term as a governor early this year. Mrs McCaffrey was first elected as a Parent Governor and later became a Co-opted Governor and Vice-Chairman of the governing body. She brought a wide range of skills and commitment to her role especially in areas such as provision for pupils with Special Needs, Performance Management, Information Technology, and as a member of the Strategic Development sub-committee. She was indeed fully involved in many



areas of school life and her fellow governors greatly appreciated the professionalism she brought to her work for St.George's School: we remain very grateful to her for her years of service.

In her place, the Diocese has appointed Deborah Thompson as a Foundation Governor with effect from May 1st. Mrs Thompson is extremely well known to the school having worked closely with us in many ways during her period as Senior Schools Improvement Officer for the Enfield local authority. She is also a parishioner of Our Lady & St.George parish, for which he performs the important role of Safeguarding Officer. We are delighted to have her as a member of the governing body and anticipate her wide involvement in our work.

Library

A message from the Enfield Libraries team:

All Enfield library buildings are currently closed until further notice, but we continue to offer services via our digital library including access to eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and eComics for children and teenagers. There are online 'reading rooms' for children and teens which allows them to browse a selection of relevant titles. You can find more information on the digital library here: <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/libraries/digital-library/>.

You can also access uLIBRARY via the app or a web browser to join the Bookworms Book Club, an audiobook club for young listeners with a new title selected every month.

A reduced schedule of our usual activities, such as Baby Rhyme Time, will be made available. These events will be publicised on our social media pages, alongside information on activities such as BookTrust's Pyjamarama and The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge, which will be moved to an online format for this year.

We have a blog at enfieldlibraries.wordpress.com which is being updated with a Libraries From Home series. We also have a newsletter – please email digital.services@enfield.gov.uk to request a spot on our mailing list.

You can find us here on social media:

<https://www.instagram.com/enfieldlibraries/>
<https://www.facebook.com/enfieldlibrary/>

<https://twitter.com/enfieldlibrary>

Kind regards,
Yasmin Mason
Library Resources Officer - Resources
Enfield Libraries

Supporting Key Workers

Chamberlains Estate Agents have organised a colouring/ drawing competition for St George's pupils with prizes for the top three entries. A colouring sheet is included in this newsletter, although pupils are free to design their own picture on the theme of **supporting our key workers**. All entries should be on A4 paper (landscape) and posted through the office letterbox at 47 Windmill Hill, EN2 7AE by noon on **Friday 8 May**. A fitting destination for one of your daily exercises! For each entry received, a donation will be made to the Enfield Food Bank.

Oak academy

A reminder for parents that the DfE's Oak Academy is an online resource that includes video lessons presented by experienced teachers. The Academy offers 180 video lessons across a broad range of subjects. The lessons cover children in Reception through to Year 10 and are free to use by both teachers and young people.

The Oak National Academy can be accessed here: <https://www.thenational.academy/>

School attendance

It is important to underline that schools, all childcare settings (including early years settings, childminders and providers of childcare for school-age children), colleges and other educational establishments, remain safe places for children. Reducing the number of children making the journey to school, and reducing the number of children in educational settings, will protect the NHS and save lives by reducing the risks of spreading the virus. If a child can be at home, then they should be at home.

Educational visit refunds

As you are aware we no longer handle cash in school and therefore we use ParentPay for the handling of all monies. Many of you will have made payment in recent months for activities and educational visits which unfortunately will now no longer be taking place.

We have been liaising closely with ParentPay with regards to the most effective and efficient way to process refunds. Unfortunately, in these very different times, this is proving to be a complex procedure. We have to collate very specific information for all of the trips and activities for which we require refunds. This information, along with the corresponding funds must be sent to ParentPay to enable them to facilitate these refunds. The Local Authority are currently acting on behalf of all Enfield Schools and have advised that until all required information has been collated by each school we should not make any refunds.

We will let you know as soon as we have any updates. In the meantime, we thank you for your continued patience.

Prayer

A prayer for VE Day, from the Act of Commitment for Peace:

Lord God our Father,

we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humankind, in the cause of peace,

for the relief of want and suffering,

and for the praise of your name.

Guide us by your Spirit;

give us wisdom;

give us courage;

give us hope;

and keep us faithful now and always.

Amen.

We continue to pray in school for all our children and families. Please remember us in your prayers also.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr P O'Rourke
Headteacher

To all key workers...

THANK

YOU

NHS

Supermarkets

AND more

We appreciate you

5 ÷ 2
TEACHERS

Delivery Drivers

Careers

