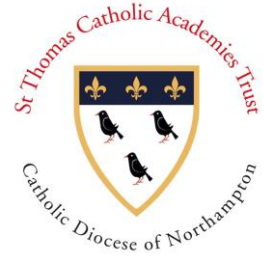




**St. Ethelbert's Catholic
Primary School and Nursery**
'Learning, achieving and growing together with Jesus'
Headteacher: Mrs F. Maynard



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"The glory of God is
a human being fully alive!"



Friday 15th May 2020

Friday Letter from Mrs Maynard

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Opening

Again, this week there has been much information about the reopening of schools and the cohorts of children who may be able to return. The safety of pupils, staff and parents is the primary consideration in the decision making process about when St Ethelbert's school will open again.

I am working closely with other local primary schools, the local authority, the teaching unions and our fellow Catholic Trust schools to examine the DfE guidance and establish exactly what safe provision we could make for your children, my staff, and you as parents.

This is a complicated process, and will take time to get right. St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School will not be opening on the 1st June, and at present, I am not able to give a confirmed opening date. Please continue to keep your children safe at home until you have been directly contacted by us to offer you a place. Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 parents have been contacted regarding the need for places. As per DfE guidance, we will not be able to offer places to siblings in other year groups.

The school only has capacity for a certain number of pupils if safe distancing guidelines are to be followed, again we will work out the best solution for the children and staff and inform parents when it is possible for their child to attend school. It may be that part-time places have to be offered to meet the safety guidance.

I would like to thank parents again for your patience as school staff work to find solutions to a very difficult situation that keep everyone in the St Ethelbert's community as safe as possible.

Joe Richardson, the Strategic Executive Lead of our Trust has composed a letter to parents that will be sent alongside this newsletter, and I have added a video to the website to explain the school's position.

School remains closed to all other than children of keyworkers who are unable to keep their children at home.

School will be closed for all pupils during half term week, Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May, and on Monday 1st June for a staff INSET day

St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School and Nursery has a commitment to safeguarding, and the welfare and wellbeing of children.



Mental Health Awareness Week

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week, the theme of which is Kindness. Everyone is encouraged to show acts of kindness remotely and to those in their own home. Teachers will be reminding pupils of this next week on Seesaw and will look forward to hearing all about the acts of kindness they are able to share.



National 'Thank a Teacher Day' Wednesday May 20th

On Wednesday, children are encouraged to thank their teachers by sending messages, photos and art work to various platforms. I know how hard the teachers at St Ethelbert's have been working and would like to add my thanks. Please see the link below for more information.

<https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher-day/>



Year 5 Parents – 11+

If your child is in Year 5 and you are intending for them to take the 11+ school transfer test in the Autumn, please read the guidance from the Slough Schools Consortium that was sent out with the newsletter last week. Due to lockdown, the process of registering will be done online within a set timeframe. Please read the letter carefully and make a note of the relevant dates.

Safeguarding Reminder

If you have a concern about the safety of a child while schools are closed, you can contact the Front Door Hub at Slough to report an incident on **01753 875362**

The staff and I continue to work hard at home to support our pupils and families and we send our best wishes, and pray that our families are safe and that we get to see you all again before too long. In this month of May, we share the prayer of Our Lady:

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with thee,
Blessed art thou among women
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.
Amen*

God Bless, stay safe

St Ethelbert, pray for us

**Mrs Maynard
Headteacher**