



# St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic School



Dear parents and carers,

## **Mass and Liturgy to celebrate the start of the new year**

We need to say a big thank you to Fr Gerard this week for coming into school every afternoon to celebrate liturgy and Mass. Usually, we would have been able to celebrate Mass as a whole school community, but due to Covid, we've had to celebrate with each bubble separately which has meant lots more work for Fr Gerard. Thank you Father; all of the staff and children really appreciate what you've done for us!

## **Face coverings**

We're continually reviewing the effectiveness of our Covid procedures to make sure our school is as safe as possible. One area where it has become apparent that it is difficult to adhere to social distancing guidelines is during drop off and pick up. I am keen that we do absolutely everything we can to remain open, and so from Monday next week I would like to ask that you wear a face covering during the afternoon pick up when you are waiting in the playground. I would also like to request that if you are unable to remain 2m apart from other adults in the morning, or that you are a reception class parent bringing your child into class, that you wear a face covering then too. I appreciate that the wearing of face coverings has been a controversial topic in the press of late but I would ask for your understanding and cooperation so that we protect our community and keep our school open by doing everything we can to stay safe.

## **Thank you for your donations of soap**

Thank you so much for all of your kind donations of liquid soap this week. We are going through soap at a rapid rate as we make sure children wash their hands frequently throughout the day. Your fantastic response to our request for help was incredibly touching and will definitely help our stretched finances!

## **Library**

Thanks to the money that you raised through the Friends last year, I'm delighted to say that we're now in a position to be able to open our new school library. Year 1 were the first to visit and borrow a book last week and we're starting visits for the rest of the school over the coming days.

Hampshire school library service have helped us to sort through all of our old library stock and have provided lots of fantastic new books for the children to enjoy. Once we're free of Covid restrictions, we will timetable weekly slots in the library for each class, but for now we've got a timetable that allows each class to visit the library every two weeks to allow us to clean the room and quarantine the books between bubbles.

Books from the library serve a different purpose to the colour banded books your child will take home if they are still working through our reading scheme. The reading scheme books are chosen by the staff to match the phonics phase the children are learning in class, whereas the library provides the children with an opportunity to freely choose books they like the look of. This means that the library books will probably contain lots of sounds and words which your child will not have learned in class. Please don't worry about this. Library books from the library are all about having fun, and by sharing the book with your child you will help them to develop a love of reading which will serve them well throughout their school years and beyond.



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## **Fr Gerard signing SJB admission forms**

Those of you with children in Year 6 should have received an email from the school yesterday regarding Fr Gerard signing your SJB admission applications. Please call the office if you have any queries.

## **Happy bags**

The Friends have organised a Happy Bags collection to help raise some money for the school. Many thanks to them and to you for your support. The drop off day is next Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

## **School photographs**

I'm pleased to say that the school photographer has been booked for 8<sup>th</sup> October. Unfortunately we're not allowed to invite pre-school brothers and sisters into school to have a family photograph taken with their older siblings at this time but we will be able to take a joint photograph of siblings who are at St Hugh together.

## **Inset day 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

Just a quick reminder that we have an INSET day on Friday 2 October. Wrap around care will not be in operation that day.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

God bless,  
Mrs Harper