



ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BIRSTALL



Friday 10th July

Dear Parents/Carers,

I cannot believe that we are so very close now to the end of the academic year and what a great but challenging year we have had, as my first year at St Patrick's. We have made many improvements and developments across the school notably significant improvements in the provision and achievement in Phonics and Reading for Key Stage 1, the progress being made by pupils from the end of KS1 to end of KS2, how this is analysed and used to ensure all pupils reach their potential and the school learning environment (to name a few areas of focus). Although it has been a challenging year and I have missed not being visible in the school building for quite some time, the school family have worked in great partnership to ensure we have been able to get through this challenging time as successfully as possible. I wish to thank all our families for their support with home learning – it is through your dedication and use of the home learning packs, website links and class page learning resources that we have been able to ensure our pupils continue with their learning through the school closure. This dedication from yourselves will have a significant benefit to your children when we open again in September and begin our catch up half term – I thank you.



Staff Retirement: Mrs Malone, a very valued member of school staff will be



retiring at the end of next week.

Her final few days will be spent with Year 6, after many years of teaching at St Patrick's; most recently covering PPA in KS2 and supporting Year 6 with targeted interventions and support for both groups and individuals, helping Mrs Walker to ensure Year 6 feel ready and confident for the SATs tests. Mrs Malone has been a wonderful

member of the school family, the pupils have loved being part of her classes and she has had superb impact ensuring our pupils are able to be as successful as possible. We will miss her incredibly but wish her a very happy, healthy and enjoyable retirement – we certainly hope Mrs Malone will be able to return when we can once again celebrate Mass together, having the opportunity to say thank you to her as a school.

THANK YOU MRS MALONE FOR MANY YEARS OF WONDERFUL SERVICE TO

ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL.



ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BIRSTALL



In 2020-2021 academic year:

We are very pleased that Mrs Morgan will continue as a valued member of staff working as Class teacher for Class 5 across the academic year. We very much look forward to the return of Mrs Abbott following her maternity leave before the end of the Autumn term. I thank Miss Smith for stepping into the SENCO role and being Class 2 teacher until her return.



Joint venture by PFA and School to develop a fitness trail in the playground:



During the school closure time we have continued to ensure planned improvements can continue where possible. The Fitness Trail being developed in the main playground is now well on the way and will be completed ready for the start of the new school year. It will be a wonderful addition to the outdoor facilities at school and every pupil will have chance to use it across the week during breaks, lunchtimes and PE sessions when appropriate to the PE focus. We thank the PFA for supporting school in this venture which we know will have great benefits for all the pupils.

The PFA gained grant funding for an Outdoor Theatre:

The PFA have continued to work hard to support school in achieving a grant for an outdoor theatre area. As you can see this has been completed during the school closure and is outside the Class 3 and 4 classrooms. The pupils will be able to use it for Performance aspects of the English curriculum, dancing, role play and many other enjoyable learning activities in the new year. As well as a great space to sit and enjoy each other's company, hopefully with some background music at breaks or lunchtimes once we get back to the pre-COVID school routines so not to disturb the learning in Class 3 and 4!

We thank the PFA for this great addition to our outdoor spaces.





Further Developing the Computing offer at St Patrick's

The availability of technology and the development of the computing curriculum is an area that has been of significant focus over this last year. I am very pleased to share that over the school closure we have continued to further develop this area ready for September. We will have very much improved access to the latest technology for all pupils across school from the new interactive boards, iPads and chromebooks. We will also be having a specialist computing teacher joining school on Tuesday's and Thursday's to deliver high quality computing lessons across KS1 and 2 during teachers PPA time. If the interest is there, we may also be able to offer a technology based after school club for different year groups over the year. I cannot wait to see the impact our new technology will have on the pupils learning, getting them ready for the future where we know technology will play a huge part in their careers and jobs.



We say a very fond farewell to our wonderful Class 6 pupils:



I cannot believe we have come to that time where we say goodbye to our Class 6 pupils! You have been a wonderful class, full of pupils who are great role models to the rest of the school community, your attitude to learning has been exemplary leading to you all reaching for the stars and achieving your potential. We know that if you had completed your SATs the achievements and progress evidenced would have been superb! You have all been great examples of putting the virtues we have been learning about into action – following the example of St Patrick through your faithfulness, your love and your courage especially during this most difficult

of years! The whole staff and school family thank you and wish you all the very best in your new journeys. Please do not forget you will always be part of our family and are welcome back to visit (when it is safe to do so).



ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BIRSTALL



To all the pupils at St Patrick's this year – you have all been superstars, hardworking, considerate to others and eager to be the very best version of yourself. Our school virtues have certainly been lived out over the year, both in school and at home during this most challenging of times:

Be Faithful

Be Loving

Be Courageous

THANK YOU!

Can I please take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the wonderful St Patrick's staff team. Every member of staff has made such a huge difference to each of our pupils this year. Your hard work, flexibility and positive attitude has shone across the year. I knew when I accepted the job that St Patrick's was a very special school but it is the team of staff along with the amazing pupils and their families that have cemented this for me this year.

I thank each one of you for your dedication to the pupils and hope you all have a very well earned rest over the summer, so that we can continue the learning journey with the pupils next year.

Finally...

We very much look forward to having all our pupils back in September, using everything we have learnt during our successful wider offer, to have an effective plan in place to reopen in September. There will be a letter coming out to all families next week once we have agreement from the governors.

School Opens to pupils: Tuesday 8th September

I hope everyone is able to have a lovely Summer.

With very best wishes and thanks

Mrs C Moulding (Headteacher)