



St John Fisher Catholic Primary School

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Friday, 20th March 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Wow. When I came into school on Monday to introduce the children and staff to our beautiful little Star, I had no idea that we would be saying 'Goodbye' to our children by Friday. It has been a whirlwind of a week and one that has had so many mixed feelings for so many of us; anger, fear, anxiety and grief. Worry for all of our children around their health and education and grief, especially for our Y6 cohort, who has been unable to continue in their final year in primary school together.

I would like to reassure you all that I aim to have all of our children back in school as soon as we are able to. We will stay in touch with you by Dojo, letter and phone and would ask that you do the same for us; tell us how your children are getting on, what they have learned, created and enjoyed. Also, let us know if you have any concerns about your children. Frontline services are still available, as are we, and we will do all we can to get you the support you may need.

'Thank you' to everyone who has been so understanding while we have tried to put in place the provision that was asked of us on Wednesday evening. The government has made it clear that children, and wider society, are safest when they remain at home. This is the best way to stop this virus taking hold. While we would love to offer childcare to everyone who needs it, it is aimed at those people who are classed as essential to keeping the country functioning and who are not able to work from home.

While I was outside of school this morning and afternoon, I was blown away by the number of people who thanked our staff for all they have done and who also offered support and their services voluntarily. The empathy and kindness you have shown us has meant such a lot to us all.

Finally, please do look after yourselves and each other. There are vulnerable people in our communities who may need support, both practical and spiritual. A quick call to see how somebody is or a chat over a garden fence (2 meters apart of course!) may be the only human contact some people will have all day.

See you soon!

Mrs Forrest

At St John Fisher we shine!

