



St Joseph's Journal

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 24

20TH MARCH 2020

SCHOOL CLOSURE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

It is with great sadness that tonight we must close our doors and cease teaching until further notice. As I am sure you are aware, this is following the direction of the Government in an increased effort to slow the rate of transmission of the COVID-19 virus. As a school, we not only are sad to lose such valuable time with your children but also appreciate that the situation will cause emotional and financial strain to so many. It is especially at times like this we must turn to our faith and place our hope in the Lord. All our families will remain in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Each week teachers will be producing a 'Home Learning' sheet that will be available to view on the class page of our school website and can be found at www.st-josephs-tod.org.uk. The first one will be available no later than Monday lunchtime. Throughout our closure you can remain in contact with school through both the telephone number and the school website. Each class also has their own email address to respond to queries about the children's learning and these will be looked at between 10am and 2pm each weekday. Details of email addresses are on class pages and on the letter going home tonight.

We have no idea of a date when we will be reopening at this stage but will keep parents updated as soon as this is possible.

EnviroLENT

As a school family and parish, we continue to respond to the invitation from Bishop John to reconsider our role in caring for creation and the environment. Over the past three weeks we have focussed on **reducing, reusing and recycling**. This week we are called to reflect on 'rewild':

Focus 4: Rewild

In our communities, we have lots of green spaces to play in. But this isn't the same everywhere. To rewild means to bring nature and wildlife back into our local communities, which helps to clean up the air we breathe and restore the way the planet works.

What can you do?

Compost your waste—this is good for your garden and the environment.

Count some insects—how many birds, butterflies and bugs can you find? How many can you name? Can you build a bug hotel?

Plant some flowers—flowers are not only pretty to look at but help the soil and air quality which in turn helps all the insects and wildlife.

DIocese of Salford

ENVIROLENT: REWILD

In our communities, we have lots of green spaces to play in. But this isn't the same everywhere. To rewild means to bring nature and wildlife back into our local communities, which helps to clean up the air we breathe and restore the way the planet works.

COMPOST YOUR WASTE

It's good for your garden and for the environment, helping to feed microorganisms and save water. You can compost all sorts of things to stop them going to landfill.

COUNT SOME INSECTS

Simply count the amount of birds, butterflies or bugs you see in your school field or back garden and create your own research project which you can send to scientists.

PLANT SOME FLOWERS

Flowers are not only pretty to look at, they serve a very important purpose in our world - helping air and soil quality which helps all of the insects and wildlife in our world.

A HOTEL FOR CREEPY CRAWLIES

BUILD A BUG HOTEL

Younger parishioners in the Impact group at Guardian Angels Impact Group, Bury, made a bug hotel. Building a bug hotel helped the children learn about the natural world around them.

During their meetings they came up with an array of ideas of what we could do to help protect our environment from further deterioration. One idea was to build our own 'bug hotel' at Guardian Angels. This helped them to attract many types of insects and so encourage and protect other local wildlife.

DID YOU KNOW?

There is thought to be over one million species of insects in the world.

HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY



We would like to wish all our mum's a very special mothers day on Sunday.

We know this one will feel different but through these moments in life we learn to treasure what is truly important.

St Joseph's Feast Day - March 19th



Yesterday we celebrated the Feast of St Joseph's and although we were not able to attend Mass as we usually would, our pupil chaplain led us in a beautiful prayer service where though provoking reflections showed St Joseph as an incredible role model for this challenging time.

'St Joseph was a person of prayer. He taught Jesus how to use human words to talk to His Heavenly Father'.

'St Joseph thought not of himself, but how he could work hard to provide for others'.

'We should dedicate ourselves to working hard for the good of others, which gives a deeper meaning to our work. We need to use our talents, in these troubling times, to fulfil a greater purpose.'

Uniform Surveys

Thankyou to all who managed to complete and return your surveys. We are still hoping to be able to go ahead with presenting your views to the Governors in the coming weeks once everything has been collated. Meetings have been cancelled but information may still be shared in other ways. Once we have more updates we will be in touch again with parents.



Spring Parents Evening—cancelled

Due to the change in our situation, our Spring Parents Evening has been cancelled. Our teachers will all be calling parents next week however, to touch base and find out how you are managing to access the Home Learning. If you have any other queries that you would like to discuss, please feel free to use this opportunity.

Teachers will now collate a written report of your child's learning for the year so far and this will be sent out once prepared. A parents' evening will be rescheduled for the Summer term once we have reopened.

Sacramental Programme Sacrament of Holy Communion

The restrictions placed on us all at the moment to follow guidance for social distancing means that we can not provide a date for when our sacramental programme classes will recommence. We will try to keep parents informed on the weekly newsletter as and when an update is available. Thank you for your understanding.

Stay with us Lord on our journey.

Class Email Contacts for Home Learning Help

If you have any queries about your child's home learning during our school closure please use the email address for your child's class

ACORNS@stjosephs.romerocat.com

BEECH@stjosephs.romerocat.com

CEDAR@stjosephs.romerocat.com

ELM@stjosephs.romerocat.com

LARCH@stjosephs.romerocat.com

OAK@stjosephs.romerocat.com

Teachers will respond between 10am and 2pm Monday to Friday.