

St John with St Michael CE Primary School



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4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the government announcement this evening, I regret to announce that we have no choice but to close school from tomorrow, Tuesday 5th January to all year groups, apart from those children classed as vulnerable, or those children whose parents are key workers (the same criteria for key workers apply as per the previous lockdown). If you require clarification on whether your child meets this criteria, please email head@sjsm.lancs.sch.uk and I will endeavour to respond promptly.

For this week, pupils allowed to attend should still arrive at their class designated arrival time and they will be based in their own classrooms where they will access the same online diet as the children based at home. Collection times will remain the same for this week. As a clearer picture emerges, we may need to make slight changes to these arrangements. Although I recognise that this news will be disappointing for many of our families, we are in a much stronger and better qualified position than back in March. We are fully prepared to launch live teaching (we hope this will begin on Wednesday whilst we establish numbers and appropriate groupings in school). This will mean that the children will be in constant contact with their teachers and classmates, albeit remotely. Those children with specific needs will still be supported both academically, and socially and emotionally. Teachers and teaching assistants will also deliver specific interventions as planned to all identified groups. Every child should have their login and password for Google Classroom (the most recent one provided to access live teaching). Please email your child's class teacher if you need this sending again. It is hoped that reading books will be allocated online, using Bug Club, for those pupils in KS1 and login details will be sent out for this.

We will continue to hold daily worship and Friday family worship online to keep our communities connected each week. It is our intention to continue to develop further innovative ways of keeping our pupils and our families in touch and connected throughout the school closure.

The kitchen will remain open and school lunches will be served as normal. Provision will be made for those children at home who are eligible for free school meals – more details to follow.

We can only hope that this period will pass quickly and with hopes of the vaccine being rolled out that this closure will be much shorter than the last.

It is with a heavy heart that I upload this letter but please rest assured that we will do everything possible to support you and your children in the coming weeks. If you have any worries, concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via email or via telephone in the coming days.

I wish you and your families all the very best and with God's guidance we will get through this together.

The Special Prayer for this week:

Loving God,
your Son told his disciples
to become like little children.
Lead us to work for the welfare

and protection of all young people.
May we respect their dignity
that they may flourish in life,
following the example of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Yours sincerely,

D. Toddington

Mr D Toddington