



St. Monica's Catholic Primary School

Currier Drive, Neath Hill,

Milton Keynes MK14 6HB

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9th October 2020

Dear Parents and Families

I hope that you are well.

Excellent Attendance

Thank you for your effort in ensuring children are in school each day. Our attendance rate has been climbing since the beginning of term and over 99% of children were in school yesterday. This is a remarkably high rate – keep up the good work and thanks again! Thanks for observing the COVID procedures in school, including at drop off and pick up times.

COVID

NHS advice is that, if you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

Please see the following link <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> for more information on symptoms and getting a test.

In the event of a positive test, please ensure that you inform the school by email on stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk

Flu Vaccinations – 12th November

We have had a number of you ask about flu vaccinations this year. You will have had by Parentmail information regarding flu vaccinations in school on Thursday 12th November led by the school nurses.

Packed lunches, snacks and drinks for the day

Please can you ensure that your child brings everything they need for the day with them when they arrive at school in the morning, including all drinks and snacks, including water for drinking? If your child is having Kingswood lunches, they still need to bring all drinks and snacks. This will avoid you needing to come back in the middle of the day with these.

School ties

We have had a number of queries about school ties. You can buy them online from your Parentmail account so please look there if you need a school tie.

Lost Property

Due to COVID, there is no single lost property store at the moment. Please ensure all your children's clothes and shoes have their names in them so that they can be passed straight back to your child if found.

Appointments during school

If you are picking up your child during the school day, please can you email your child's class teacher(s) by the end of the day before so we can make sure your child is ready for you to pick up at the right time.

Parking

We have had a large number of complaints from parents and residents since the start of term about families' parking, particularly at the end of the day.

Please ensure that you observe the rules of the road. If you are in any doubt about those rules, please see <https://www.highwaycodeuk.co.uk/> which sets them out online.

The following issues have been raised in particular as things which must be avoided:-

- Parking in the disabled bay outside the school. Please do not park here unless you have a blue badge as it is needed by people who do.
- Stopping for long periods of time in the middle of the road.
- Parking on double yellow lines (including at the top of Tower Drive) or on the zig zag lines outside the school.
- Parking on corners.
- Parking on the pavement or on the grass on Currier Drive.
- Parking on or across people's drives.
- Parking in restricted parking bays including in the surrounding Mews.
- Turning at the entrance to the school after school. The cones are there to prevent turning there as it is a pedestrian exit after school due to COVID procedures.

- Abusive language and tone being used where people (including neighbours, families and staff) point out that these rules are being breached.
- Taxi drivers who are serving families from school ignoring these rules of the road.

We are really concerned about parking on yellow lines/zig zag lines or in the middle of the road which is blocking a whole lane to traffic for considerable periods of time. This is forcing people to overtake and is causing backlogs of traffic, including out onto the dual carriageway. It only takes two people parked in the wrong places to block Currier Drive completely. This is genuinely dangerous so please avoid doing this. This is really important.

Google Classroom

We are going to be increasing our use of Google Classroom over the next few weeks, including for setting homework and in case of any class/school closures. It has a number of programs which are free to you which can be used by us to teach, set work and assess children.

You will be contacted with details of an email address for each of your children and how to log on and use Google Classroom. Please look out for this information and follow the instructions when you get them so we can get all children onto Google Classroom as quickly as possible.

I trust this will be of great benefit to the children in the longer term so thanks for your help on this.

As ever, if you have any queries regarding your child's time in school, please contact their class teacher or me.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mr O'Malley