



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

A SCIENCE SPECIALIST COLLEGE

HEADTEACHER: MS MELISSA L ROBERTS, BA (HONS), MA, NPQH

MLR/hr/ parent letter
19th January 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I hope you are all well and safe at this most challenging time.

First of all, I would like to congratulate Y7 on embarking on their first remote test week. As with Y8, the level of commitment shown has been exemplary.

As you know, both students and staff of St Joseph's College have been working hard during the lockdown and I would like to take this chance to share some updates with regard to remote learning.

In the week commencing Monday 25th January I have asked each department to hold a planning day to review what is working well and plan any enhancements to remote learning for the upcoming weeks. Students should log on as usual according to their timetable but for some of their lessons there will be consolidation work set rather than live lessons.

We will be conducting a student survey of remote provision to inform the planning process and we will send the link out via Microsoft Teams. This is a great opportunity for students to tell us what is helping them and what we need to review.

As you know, St Joseph's College is a school proud of our creative life. Students need to have outlets to express themselves and this is particularly important during these difficult times.

From the week commencing Monday 1st February, KS3 students will be asked to work on a screens-off creative project in one hour of each school day. They will be set the challenge the week before and we will ask them to spend an hour working on their project. Details of what to do and when to do it each day will be sent to students through Teams. Examples of work submitted will go into our archive, documenting how students from St Joseph's College coped with living through a pandemic.

The half term holiday is coming up beginning Monday 15th February. School will be closed for the whole of the week.

In anticipation of the students returning to school, we will be sending out consent forms for all students to have lateral flow testing for COVID-19 in their first week back in school. If your child is in the rainbow group they will already have been given a consent form. We would be grateful if this is returned to school as soon as possible.



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Finally, I have been contacted by a few parents who have said that hearing our staff teach has made them interested in a career in teaching. St Joseph's College runs a hugely successful and highly rated SCITT for both primary and secondary teaching, with placements in this school and others for training on the job. As someone who has been in teaching for 28 years I can confirm it really is the best job in the world (even now). There are Train to Teach taster sessions on Friday 22nd and Friday 29th January via zoom. If you know anyone who might be interested, the contact is via tsa@stjosephsmail.com.

As ever, if you have any questions or concerns, or wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Yours sincerely,



Ms M Roberts
Headteacher