

HFS KIT Parents 23rd March 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you all enjoyed establishing your 'new normal' over the weekend.

We are seeking to keep our school community as together and as positive as we can during this difficult time.

Our senior leadership team were in school all day on Saturday as we sought to change our provision from education to childcare in just over 48 hours. 78 families completed our survey registering for their child/children to attend school this week due to their role as key workers vital to the Covid-19 response.

Mrs Benn and Mrs Doyle rang all 78 families on Saturday afternoon, supported by Mrs Hume and Miss Delaloye calling out the phone numbers and taking notes. We managed to get our confirmed numbers down to 36 children. Holy Family staff have a civic duty and a critical role in enabling the brave key workers to address this terrifying situation we find ourselves in. You all have a civic duty to self-isolate, practice social distancing and for your children not to end up in A and E. We must all carefully consider bike riding, trampolining and other activities that are frequently causes of broken bones in children.

Having researched the COVID-19 virus this weekend it seems there is a sliding scale of risk and children are in the lowest risk category which is of course a silver lining but they are not in a no risk category. The elderly and those with health conditions are high risk with fit healthy middle aged people somewhere in the middle. As ever it is not an exact science and the government have categorically said many people will lose loved ones.

The DFE, LA and Mrs Benn want as few children in schools as possible and as many people as possible self-isolating to limit the spread, slow the rate of infection therefore avoiding overwhelming the NHS so that when older people fall ill they are more likely to receive the critical care they need. This is how we can all do our bit to reduce the death toll of the elderly.

Scientists are doing a great job and working very hard to find the vaccine which may be as long as a year away. You have a civic responsibility and duty of care to every other person you come into contact with. We can minimise the impact of COVID -19 by working together in joint action with everyone else in England. We are united by a collective shared terror. If we are selfish we all lose, if we work together we all win.

One of our many staff mottos at HFS is 'Together we can achieve great things!' Today, our staff are very grateful to Mrs Hendy, Miss Wheeler and Mrs Wilson for being the A team! With parents able to collect children as soon as they finish work at 3.30pm we had just 20 children to dismiss. I pray and hope that our 'Closure Working Party' which includes kitchen assistant, admin and cleaners stay well and we don't need to call any other staff in before the Easter break.

We are very grateful for your understanding and overwhelming support for new routines and structures we have, and continue to, put in place daily. Today, was our calmest day in school for the last week and we began to realise we have too much email traffic going through school.admin@hfcs.org.uk I would like you to use three new staff contacts to report concerns, issues with logins/ICT and your words of support and encouragement. Please email:

Sue.basquil@hfcs.org.uk if you have any welfare concerns about your child

Marie.martinez@hfcs.org.uk if you have any problems with logins

Elizabeth.delaloye@hfcs.org.uk if you have any questions about Key Worker Childcare

Mandy.brophy@hfcs.org.uk if you wish to bolster us with encouraging words

Our staff team really appreciate your kind words. I ask for your support again in praying for our staff team, key workers (especially those in the hospitals) and all our elderly friends and relatives. We pray that none of them become seriously ill.

Stay indoors, away from elderly relatives and enjoy lots of cuddles on the sofa!

God bless

Mrs Benn and SLT