

The Newman Catholic Collegiate



St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy
Little Chell Lane
Tunstall
Stoke on Trent
ST6 6LZ
Telephone: 01782 883036
Email: ibeardmore@stmmarysnewman.co.uk

Accounting Officer: Mr Ian Beardmore

Monday 23rd March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Yesterday, Jesus reminded us in the Gospel that he is the light of the world. Often things can look very bleak but our faith can allow us to see the light that Jesus shines and find hope. Working together as a faith community we can achieve so much.

As part of our community effort, we will try to ensure that we keep contact with our pupils. That is why I have asked all school teachers to communicate by letter on a weekly basis to their students and tell them how they can continue their studies in these most unusual times.

Schools rarely close, and so we cannot underestimate the need to follow the Government's advice. Your actions could save lives.

I appeal to you to prevent your child from meeting friends and socialising in groups. It is clear that the government need us to self-isolate for the sake of our loved ones and, indeed, the whole nation. **We must try our best to stay at home!** This is why we are trying to encourage as many children to stay at home as possible.

We are staying open to help the critical workers that are going to look after the seriously ill in our society. We are NOT staying open to allow someone else to continue earning money during this crisis. Let me be clear. The staff in our schools are placing themselves and their families at risk in order to support the Government's efforts to allow the nation to battle this cruel disease that is sweeping our nation. I urge you to support us and ensure you keep your children at home.

Again, I assure you that we will be here for you throughout the period of school closure. You may just want a chat or inform us about how your child is dealing with the social distancing requirements in the fight against COVID-19; please call or email! I have set up a collegiate email for anyone who urgently need to get in touch info@newmancc.co.uk

As a collegiate, we want no child to miss any education. With optimism, we have altered our term dates to start back to school earlier after the summer break. Children will be expected back into school on Wednesday 2nd September, assuming that we have fought off the threat of this virus and the Government have given us permission to open. A full copy of your term dates will be available on your schools' website.

You all remain in my prayers.

God bless

Mr Beardmore
Principal
