

**Leadership Team**

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*"Shaping Lives, Shaping Futures"**"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it" Proverbs 22:6*24<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

During these unprecedented times, here at St John's, the staff are committed to ensuring that we provide the best support possible to our pupils, families and school community as a whole.

We understand that having to remain at home, and only leaving the house for essential trips whilst educating your child full time without normal networks of support, will present many challenges. As many of us are parents ourselves, we fully understand the pressures that this places on us all.

I hope that you have found the work currently being sent home to support your child's learning useful and have been able to maintain some of the daily structure that they need. The work will continue to be sent out on a weekly basis until the Government announce that it is safe for schools to reopen their doors to all pupils.

Part of the role of schools is to ensure that safety of its pupils and their families. Following the guidance set out by the Government, we have offered provision for key groups identified. However, we do recognise that other people may require advice and support.

Many of you may be aware of the Early Help Statement and accompanying leaflet for parents that is on our website. In light of the current circumstances, the leaflet has been reviewed to include further information regarding mental health and well-being. A copy of this leaflet is attached with this letter. We hope that you find the information useful but if you require any further advice or support, please do not hesitate to contact us. Miss Smith (PSHE Lead) has created a leaflet of activities for your child that will help support them during this time.

As stated earlier in the letter, we do not know whether the school is likely to reopen in the summer term or whether it will be in September. We appreciate that this will place additional anxiety onto both children and parents with such uncertainty. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure all children and their families that a full transition programme will become operational as soon as the announcement is given to reopen. Our priority is to work with you and support your child through the next few weeks and months and with that in mind appropriate steps will be taken to try to relieve levels of anxiety and stress where possible. As a school, we will keep you fully updated of any developments over the forthcoming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support and please contact us if there is any further support that we might be able to offer.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Lowe

Headteacher