



# Our Lady Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr. R. Curry  
Deputy Headteacher: Mr. D. Abrahams

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

## **Fundraising for Our Lady Catholic Primary School:**



I would just like to begin by thanking every single one of our wonderful school community who came together last Friday to raise so many vital funds for the school in the aftermath of the mindless vandalism that took place in our Jubilee Garden. The staff, Governors and I were so overwhelmed by the generosity of spirit and kind donations that were made to restore this special area to its former glory, so that the children can still enjoy the serenity of our garden (just like they used to do) once the school reopens more widely in the coming months. We truly value all of the contributions that were made. As of today, we have raised just over a staggering £4000 which has rendered us all speechless at the school. We are so touched, humbled and incredibly grateful! This really does highlight what

a wonderfully supportive and caring community we have and one that we are absolutely privileged to be a part of. Thank you...sincerely! We are also very grateful for the additional offers of support from our local community, including donations of flowers, security equipment and the offer of coming into work on the garden. These wonderful acts will really help to make our school a safer and more enjoyable place to be - not just for your own children, but future generations of children as well. Without you, this just would not have happened. Thank you a million times over! Once we have formed a plan for how the funds will be spent, we will write to you to let you know what impact your generous donations have had on our lovely garden and the school as a whole.

## **Wider Re-Opening of School:**

In other news, as you may be aware, the recent announcement with regards to the wider opening of schools has now been clarified and the senior leadership team, alongside our Governing Body, have reviewed the capacity we currently have to welcome more children back to school before the summer holidays. In school at the moment, we have two bubbles for each of the year groups prioritised by the government and a full-to-capacity group for those children of key workers. This has meant utilising all of the staff we have available to us. As you will know from my previous communications, it has been important to us here at Our Lady Catholic Primary school that any return to school has been always carefully planned with the children's and staff's safety being our primary concern and priority.

With this in mind, and with a very heavy heart, I am writing to let you know that we simply are not in a position to offer this wider opening to all our remaining year groups. The plain fact of the matter is that, unfortunately, we do not have any available classrooms or members of staff to ensure that it would be safe to open the school more widely with the current social distancing rules in place.

I appreciate that this may be disappointing news for some of our families in our Nursery, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 classes as well as for our staff team. We are desperate to see all of our school children return – but we continue to work to government and Public Health England guidance to ensure the safety of our entire school community (children, staff and parents alike) and this cannot be compromised in any way. Clearly this remains a very difficult time for everyone, but it is essential that we are confident that everyone is safe when they come into our school. With the Secretary of State for Education's announcement last Friday evening, it would seem that we are a step closer to being able to open our school in a more wider capacity in September, which I am sure will be welcome news for many of you. When further clarification is made by the Government on what this may look like, I will be in touch with you again to let you know how this might work at our school.

As always, we thank you for your continued support and co-operation in these unprecedented and challenging times. Should you have any further questions regarding the information in this letter please do not hesitate to ask. We have truly missed our children and families very much and we look forward to seeing you all again as one entire community.

With best wishes for the coming weeks.

Richard Curry