



St Martin de Porres Primary School

Newsletter

27th March 2020

Dear parents/carers.

Every Friday I will send out a newsletter to update you with what is happening and to try to give you some ideas for further resources that you can use with your children. The school office will be open between 8 and 4pm each day or use admin@smdpluton.co.uk for communication.

FSM

We have been working all week organising this, as the government has left it to us to try to sort it out. Those families who are registered for free school meals, will be receiving e-vouchers that are valid at Tesco. If you think you are entitled to FSM then you must register your child even if they are in Nursery/Reception or Key Stage 1. (If you have a child in KS2 who has FSM, then your younger children are also entitled to them.) We will send these on to you as soon as we are able but hopefully by Monday 30th March. If you have not heard anything, please email us through admin@smdpluton.co.uk.

Class Dojo

It has been great to see all of the wonderful work that the children have been submitting via the Class Dojo. If you are having problems accessing this, please let us know. If you do not have access to the internet or a mobile phone, then let us know by phoning the school and we will send out further work packs for your child to complete.

We will be setting up Class Dojo for Reception and Nursery children, so please look out for the information being sent out to you.

Class teachers are using Class Dojo to set tasks for the children to do and providing links to useful resources.

Teachers will be having a break at some point over Easter, so if they are not responding or giving feedback to children, please don't worry. However, this should be for a maximum of two weeks, so please contact us, if your child has not heard anything from their teacher for a longer period.

Star of the week

The teachers would really love to be able to continue to award 'Star of the week' to the child who has produced some great work or carried out an act of kindness. These will be awarded through the Class Dojo (or sent home through the post, if you don't have access.)

Espresso/Discovery Education

Please find below the log in details for Discovery Education. This is a really useful website with lots of resources for children to use.

Username
student4208

Password
martin321

www.discoveryeducation.co.uk

Letters to those in isolation.

We thought it would be lovely if the children wrote letters to people living near to them who may be elderly or on their own, telling them about some of the things they have been doing at home or perhaps drawing a picture with a cheerful message on. If you are willing, you could add your phone number and offer to get any essentials that the person might need, if unable to get out themselves.

Mass

Although we are not able to attend Mass at this time, you are able to live stream services from Northampton Cathedral at <https://northamptondiocese.org/live/>

THE NORTHAMPTON CATHEDRAL LIVE STREAMING SERVICE

Watch live mass, and other live and recorded services direct from our Cathedral

Daily – Mass 9:30am followed the Rosary. Angelus at Midday and 6:00pm

Saturday – Mass 6:00pm

Sunday – Mass 8:30am, 11:00am, 5:15pm

Monday – Mass 9:30am, 7:00pm

Wednesday – Angelus at Midday followed by Stations of the Cross

Friday – Stations of the Cross 7:00pm

Thank you all for being so understanding of the way in which we are trying to manage our response to the Corona Virus. We are trying to provide childcare for those families who are classified as critical workers and who really don't have anyway of keeping their children at home, as well as balancing the risk to staff and other children. This first week has been challenging in lots of ways and I am sure it has been difficult for everyone to adjust to a different way of living. I would like to say thank you to all of the staff, including Mr Sheppard and the cleaners, who have enabled us to stay open.

I would just like to end with part of Fr Simon's homily that he sent through to me:

'A few years ago now, I was reflecting on Jesus calming the storm. However, as I looked at the boat of my life, Jesus wasn't calming the storm, but sitting next to me in the stern, with his arm around me, riding it out with me. Jesus will come to each of us in different ways in our different needs: to some he will strengthen us emotionally; to others he will heal us physically; but for all of us he will be riding out the storm with us. Trust in that truth, in the Good News and – as Blessed Julian of Norwich said – 'all manner of things will be well in the Lord', even the battle that we find ourselves in today. Stay safe and keep the faith!'

Thank you for your support,

N. J. Morgan.

N J Morgan
Head Teacher

