



## Diocese of Portsmouth

# ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

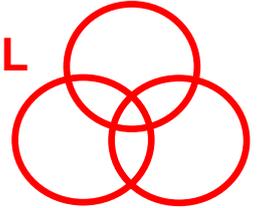
Radley Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3PP

Tel: 01235 521558 Fax: 01235 532778

e-mail: [office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)

[www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



18<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **BEATITUDES (or Blessings) FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC**

Blessed are those who stay indoors for they have protected others.

Blessed are the unemployed and the self-employed, for their need of God is great.

Blessed are the corner shopkeepers, for they are the purveyors of scarce things.

Blessed are the delivery drivers and the postal workers, for they are the bringers of essential things.

Blessed are the hospital workers; the ambulance crews, the doctors, the nurses, the care assistants, and the cleaners, for they stand between us and the grave, and the Kingdom of Heaven is surely theirs.

Blessed are the checkout workers, for they have patience and fortitude in the face of overwork and frustration.

Blessed are the refuse collectors, for they will see God despite the mountains of waste.

Blessed are the teachers, for they remain steadfast and constant in disturbing times.

Blessed are the church workers; the deacons, priests and bishops, for they are a comforting presence in a hurting world as they continue to signpost towards God.

Blessed are the single parents, for they are coping alone with their responsibilities and there is no respite.

Blessed are those who are alone, for they are children of God and with Him they will never be lonely.

Blessed are the bereaved, for whom the worst has already happened. They shall be comforted.

Blessed are those who are isolated with their abusers, for one day – we pray - they will know safety.

Blessed are all during this time who have pure hearts; all who still hunger and thirst for justice; all who work for peace and who model mercy.

May you know comfort. May you know calm.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all.

Amen.

by Jane Manfredi (A cartoon version can be accessed at:

<https://www.sacredhearthook.org/pandemic-beatitudes>)

I am sure by now you have read the latest government announcement that schools will not be re-opening to children in Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 before the summer holiday.

Whilst parts of this letter are more relevant to certain year groups of children than to





## Diocese of Portsmouth

# ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

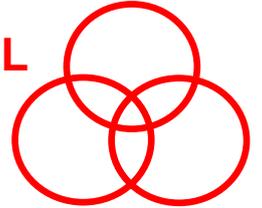
Radley Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3PP

Tel: 01235 521558 Fax: 01235 532778

e-mail: [office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)

[www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



others, I write to you all, as our school community, to explain the situation in which the school now finds itself.

Like many of you, we are frustrated that we are not able to welcome back those children currently out of school, before the end of term. The current safety restrictions remain in place which include our not being able to have more than 15 children in a class (in our school we have risk assessed our classrooms to safely hold no more than 10 children in each bubble), and for each group of children to remain within their own separate bubbles all day for teaching, at lunchtimes and on the playground. Unfortunately, we do not have the space or the number of staff available to enable us to bring back children from Year 2 to Year 6 under these restrictions. We are therefore very sorry not to be able to welcome back children whose families would wish for them to be in school until September, when hopefully it will be safe for all children to return to school. If we were able to open one more bubble before the end of term (which can only happen if the staff are available on site to run it) it would be for those Year 6 children who would like to come back, as sadly we have not been able to provide schooling for the whole of that year group either (beyond the key worker children.) For all those children who remain learning at home, we will continue to support you and your child with home learning, and meal support for those eligible. Do please keep your children and yourselves 'connected' to the school, via the class teacher email addresses and class blogs/Tapestry. The teachers do love to hear what you and your children have been up to and are here to support you in any way they can.

To all the parents of the children in the key worker, Nursery, Reception and Year 1 bubbles, thank you for supporting us by preparing your children so well for the new procedures in school and for keeping to the ten minute drop off and pick up times for your child's bubble. The children are so resilient and have settled into this new regime so happily and quickly. It's lovely to see so many of you again now and to be able to chat with you at the school gate again. Please do remember to keep to the social distancing rules yourselves when you are dropping off and picking up your child each day, no matter how tempting it is to stand around and chat. Please also be considerate of the members of the public who use the public pathway and Radley Road, they should be able to safely pass by you and your child without having to compromise the social distance rule and their safety at all.

### Online Safety

The company which supports our IT, 123ICT, is offering our school a **FREE** virtual parents Online Safety workshop. This is open to all parents from all of their contract schools.

Parents should sign up by completing their online registration form at: <https://bit.ly/123ICTPOS> or <https://forms.gle/VcDTzzA2APYK5QdW7>





## Diocese of Portsmouth

# ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

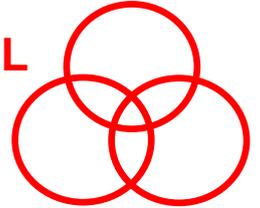
Radley Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3PP

Tel: 01235 521558 Fax: 01235 532778

e-mail: [office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)

[www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



Joining instructions will be then sent directly to you at the end of June, via the email address you use for registration.

The session will cover:

- The risks of using the internet.
- Tips and suggestions on how to reduce these risks to keep your children safe online.
- Signposting to further resources and information.
- Advice on how to get help if things go wrong.
- Tips for remote learning and remote video lessons.
- The chance to ask questions.

### 100 club June 2020 Draw

The latest draw of the Governors' Fund 100+ Club was made on the 9<sup>th</sup> June. The winning numbers were:

1st Prize (£30) – Number 97 Catherine MacFarlane

2nd Prize (£20) – Number 95 WA Stevens

3rd Prize (£10) – Number 28 Guy Rogers

Congratulations to the winners.

There are numbers available this year at £8.75 for the remaining draws. Tickets can be purchased by anyone with a connection to the school, so please encourage grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters etc. to join in and buy a number.

Please do not hesitate to contact Stuart Smith (Governor) – by email at [ssmith@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:ssmith@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk) or phone on 07900936743 if you would like to join or have any questions.

Thank you as always for all your kindness and support,

*Mrs Delany-White*

Headteacher

