



## ST JAMES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEBBURN

February 2024

Dear Families,

What a busy half term we have had in school, we are still making the very best of our current situation and thank you all for your unwavering support, continued patience and understanding in the most unusual of circumstances. We can certainly feel Spring in the air and are looking forward to the brighter days.

### **RAAC Update**

Since our last communication to you before the Christmas break, we have been continuing to work closely with our colleagues at the DfE to progress the work, to date:

- A specialist structural engineer has designed an appropriate and safe solution that will allow the school to become fully operational again.
- We are currently finalising the appointment of a suitably qualified contractor.
- The proposed build time for the works from starting on site is 12-weeks (depending on findings during the build).
- School has now been packed up by contractors in order for work to begin.

Work should become more visible on-site next week as the buildings are cleared ahead of the works. We will be continuing with current arrangements for teaching until at least after the Easter holidays 2024.

We will continue to do everything we can as a Trust to expediate any works and get us back together on one site and quickly and safely as possible.

### **After School Clubs**

As this has been a short half term we are offering an additional week of Little Dribblers and Sports Club to our current groups Year 1 and Year 4. Letters for the new Clubs will be issued to the Year 2 and Year 3 children during the first week back after half term. All other clubs will run as normal until the end of term.

### **Staffing**

We would like to welcome back Mrs Hayden from her maternity leave. We really have all missed her so much and are delighted to have her back with us at St James in the Year 5 class. Miss Brown will be leaving us after half term, we wish her all of the luck and happiness in her future ventures.

### **Website and Facebook**

A reminder that we are updating our School Website and Facebook Page weekly. You will find all of the most current information from all of the classes on our Website. **A reminder that our Facebook page is an information giving service only** and if you do need to contact us please do so via email at [info@stjameshebburn.co.uk](mailto:info@stjameshebburn.co.uk) where we will be happy to answer any queries.

## Upcoming Events

- Our Infant and Junior Music festivals are taking place for our Year 4 and Year 2 children on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of March. Individual letters will be given out to all of the children involved and tickets will be available soon via your ParentPay account.
- The school photographer will be with us in church on 28<sup>th</sup> February to take individual and group photographs of all children. Our Year 5 and Year 6 children will travel over to church by coach so all of the children will be photographed on the same day. Drop off and collection will be as normal at St Aloysius for Year 5 and Year 6 on the day.

## Red Nose Day

We will be celebrating Red Nose Day in school and coming together to raise money for Comic Relief on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. **More information will follow.**

## World Book Day

We will be taking part in World Book Day again this year on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. **More information will follow.**

## We would like to reiterate...

We understand that the current financial climate is having a tremendous effect on our school community. If you are struggling, please reach out to us and we will endeavour to support you and your children in any way we can. We want to say that this is on a strictly confidential basis. Help is here, please reach out.

## And Finally...

We would like to thank our pupils and their families, our staff, and our wider communities for their continued support during this unprecedented time.

Our pupils continue to amaze us with their resilience and adaptability, and we are eternally grateful for your continued support.

We wish all of our families and children a safe and happy Half Term break. School will reopen for the second part of the Spring Term on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

Kind regards and best wishes

Francesca Heslop  
Headteacher

## **Reminders**

- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – In-Service Day

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