



ST JAMES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEBBURN

9th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

RAAC Update and Reopening of St James Catholic Primary School

We are delighted to inform you that we are in the final stages of the repairs to St. James. New heating and fire detection systems are nearing completion and a deep clean will take place over the next week. Full Health and Safety and Safeguarding checks will also be conducted and I.T. and phone systems will be reinstalled. Terry and the team from Baines Construction Ltd have worked tirelessly to get us back into school so that the children can enjoy their final half term of the summer together. We thank them for all of their hard work and dedication to the project.

As you know we made the decision, alongside the Department for Education (DfE), and Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust, to remain in our current provision until our oldest children had completed their SATs, which begin on Monday 13th May. This was to ensure as little disruption to them as possible at this important time.

We are very excited to say that **the school will reopen after the May half term holiday on Monday 3rd June**. You have all supported us so well during what has been a truly unprecedented time for the children, staff and whole community. We will never be able to thank you enough for your loyalty to our St James Family.

We are now faced with the magnitude of moving back into school with as little disruption to the education of our children as possible. With this in mind we have made the decision alongside the DfE and BCCET to close school early before the May half term holiday. **School will be closed on Thursday 23rd May and Friday 24th May**. This has not been an easy decision to make, and we understand that this may cause some disruption to our families. We simply do not have the staffing capacity to safeguard the children with appropriate ratios and unpack the whole school ready to teach after half term.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have helped us get to the point we are today. St. Aloysius and St. Joseph's schools for accommodating and welcoming our children from Y1 to Y6 and to St. James Church for accommodating our youngest children in Reception class. Thank you just isn't enough. We really could not have managed this without you. Thank you to our wider Trust and the DfE for supporting us all of the way. Our biggest thanks go to our families for your unwavering support and our children for being a credit to their families, our school and themselves.

We very much look forward to welcoming you through the doors of St James Catholic Primary School, once again!

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Francesca Heslop
Headteacher

Mrs Francesca Heslop
Headteacher
BSc (Hons) P.G.C.E.

Email:
info@stjameshebburn.co.uk
Tel: 0191 4832672

Solway Road,
Hebburn
NE31 2BP



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust