

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



HEAD TEACHER: MRS. A. D. THORPE

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: MRS. C. HORSLEY

Front Street, Stanley, Co. Durham. DH9 0NP
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23rd June 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

As you are aware a large proportion of our children have been learning from home since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, following government guidance to close to all pupils other than key worker children. Meanwhile, all our staff have been working hard to ensure that our children have been supported at home. All staff have been working both in school with children, and at home making telephone calls to families, responding to emails and planning for work to be uploaded onto the school website on a daily basis and carrying out various tasks supporting our families. The positive feedback from families, across all year groups, has been overwhelmingly supportive and all staff appreciate your kind comments. School has remained open every day, including bank holidays, to support the children of key worker parents and latterly Y6, Y1 and Rec children.

Looking forward to the new academic year, we are aware that some parents would like their children to stay with their existing teacher in September, who is a familiar face. The decision to move staff is not a straightforward and simple one, as the decision always focuses on ensuring any moves made are done so to best support all of our children. All of our teachers are excellent and they all put the interests of our pupils at the forefront of all that they do. We will be moving all year groups up into their new classes in September to start work on their recovery curriculum with their new class teacher.

Staffing structure for 2020-2021

Headteacher	Mrs. A.D. Thorpe
Deputy Headteacher & Year 6 booster teacher	Mrs. M. Haveron
Assistant Headteacher & Year 3 class teacher	Mr. M. Grogan
Year 6 Teacher	Miss. L. Ryan
Year 5 Teacher	Miss M. Cossey
Year 4 Teacher	Mrs. J. Ashby
Year 2 Teacher	Mr. L. Haveron
Year 1 Teacher	Miss. G. Eastham
Reception Teacher	Mrs. Y. M. Quiney
Nursery Teacher	Mrs. A. Hull



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All the teaching staff are currently working hard designing a specific and targeted recovery curriculum for each year group, focusing on areas of the curriculum where gaps have been created and ensuring that the social and emotional well-being of all of our pupils is fully built in. This will be a blended curriculum and it will evolve as our pupils needs evolve.

We totally appreciate parents' concerns and worries about their children coming back in September and as government guidance updates then school will be in a position to let you know more about what it will look like in September. All the staff will continue to be very mindful of finding the best way to support each child as they return in the new academic year. On a final note, please also be reassured that all the children who have returned to school over the last few weeks have adapted amazingly well and their resilience and confidence is very uplifting.

We look forward to welcoming more pupils back in September and we are sure you will join us in celebrating their return as soon as government guidance makes this possible.

Yours sincerely,

A D Thorpe

C Horsley

P Gibson

Mrs A D Thorpe
Headteacher

Mrs C Horsley
Chair of Governors

Mrs P Gibson
Vice Chair of Governors

