



St Francis of Assisi Catholic College

Headteacher Ms P M Hanrahan BA (Hons)

25th June 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

I am pleased to begin with positive news regarding Year 10 attendance over two weeks. Week one concluded with 84% attendance and numbers continue to be high this week. Over the first 4 days of Year 12 returning we have seen an average attendance of 84% also which is excellent and I congratulate all who have managed to join us and make the most of this learning opportunity.

Learning

Of course, this face to face time does not extend to Years 7, 8 and 9 and I understand that there may be a very real feeling of '*what about us?*'. Based on the safety measures in place we are still being rightly cautious. The increase in recorded lessons on Firefly will continue so that all students get a sense of outreach and the pastoral calls taking place this week and next aim to continue to motivate students during this difficult time.

I want all parents and carers to be assured that for all year groups we are confident in our plans for September. Since lockdown began Heads of Department and their teams have been working to make sure that processes are in place to identify and close curriculum gaps when we return. Where gaps and barriers are identified we will support our students in the most appropriate ways and this extends beyond just the taught curriculum. For example, we have amended our Values Education programme to focus on Well-being in the first term and have many outside agencies lined up to support students.

Coronavirus review

In addition to this, as a staff, we are being reflective on the whole experience, considering what has gone well, what could have been better and what learning we can take from this situation, to develop our practice going forward. Crucially, should something like this occur again then we will ensure we are well placed to provide the very best for our students and families.

Canteen service

As of Monday 29th June 2020, there will be no school canteen service. This means that students will not be able to purchase food whilst in school. This will be the case until September so any student coming to school is advised to bring a packed lunch. Water fountains are still accessible and managed from a hygiene stance but food will not be purchasable.

Finally, As yesterday was the celebration of the Birth of John the Baptist we should all reflect on his prominent role as the forerunner to Jesus Christ. John the Baptist in all of his humility, acknowledged

Erdington Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RN
tel: 01922 740300 fax: 01922 740330 www.stfrancis.cc postbox@stfrancis.cc



his mission and role in preparing the way for Jesus. We are all in a state of preparation for the future, what 'normal' will be going forward and what school will look like. However, like John the Baptist we should accept our servant role in creating and pathing the way for a better future.

God bless,

Luke Salkeld