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20th March 2020

Dear Parents

I know the past few weeks have been anxious for everyone living through the Coronavirus and it is with much sadness that we have to close the school from Monday, 23rd March. I realise this is distressing news for you and our entire school community and will leave many anxious, but I want to reassure everyone, that we will continue to communicate through email and texts.

Work has been uploaded onto our School Website under the year group pages and children have been given an exercise book to complete the work in. There are activities across the curriculum and tasks have also been set on Purple Mash and Mathletics. Teachers will upload additional tasks each Friday. Should you have problems accessing the information, please email the school website with a brief description of the issue and we will respond as soon as possible.

It has been an emotional day saying goodbye to the children, but we hope and pray that it will not be too long before we can return to school. I would like to thank all the staff and Governors for their support in managing this crisis and to you for your words of appreciation. It means a great deal to us and gives us the strength to cope with these challenges.

I will be emailing you with a weekly newsletter. I have asked the children to write to me at school or email me on: head@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk. I will reply to everyone and will pass on all their messages to staff.

Thank you for your generous donations of food and toiletries, which will be donated to local families. It was uplifting to see so many children wearing an 'odd sock' today, in support of the Downs Syndrome Society. This just goes to show that despite the current crisis, our children are wonderful about thinking of others.

I wish you all a safe and healthy time in the weeks ahead and if at anytime you need advice or support, please do email me. School will be open to children of key workers and other identified pupils. There will be limited office cover and staffing, so please do not come into school, as social distancing is the best way to prevent the spread of the virus.

Thank you for your support and I ask that you continue to keep everyone in and outside our school community in your prayers and thoughts. Please ensure that you and your family are taking every possible precaution to remain safe.

Mrs Fernandes - Headteacher