

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Coronavirus update**

Yesterday the Prime Minister announced a range of new measures to help the country deal with the COVID-19 outbreak. These include:

- Anyone who lives with someone who has a cough or a temperature should stay at home for 14 days (the period remains at seven days for anyone who has either symptom and lives alone).
- Stop non-essential contact with others and to stop all unnecessary travel.
- People should start working from home where they possibly can.
- Avoid pubs, clubs, theatres and other such social venues.
- Only use the NHS when we really need to.
- The government will no longer be 'supporting' mass gatherings using emergency workers.

The Prime Minister also said that measures would be further escalated in the coming days, when those in the high-risk categories would be told to isolate themselves for three months. This is to ensure that those with the most serious health conditions, those aged 70 and over, and women who are pregnant are largely shielded from social contact for around 12 weeks.

### **What this means for our school**

The Prime Minister confirmed that, for the time being, schools will remain open, but that this will remain under review.

Measures in place at Northern Saints:

- We have been robustly managing hygiene practices in school, which include encouraging all children to wash their hands upon entering the school and before leaving (this includes breaktimes and lunchtimes).
- We have cancelled all school worship sessions, due to the number of children being in one place at one time.
- We have postponed our parents' evenings that were due to take place on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> of March.
- Regrettably our Year 5 residential visit to Ulswater has been cancelled – further information available for Year 5 parents/carers.

### **Planning ahead**

In the event that we are instructed to close at short notice, we are preparing work to maintain learning at home. Each child will receive a prepared pack of activities to complete. There will also be a number of resources available online which you can access. **Therefore, if you have access to the internet via computer, tablet or smartphone, it is essential that you read the information included in this pack**

and log into your child's account using the passwords/ QR codes provided. Should school be closed for a prolonged period of time, this will provide vital communication with your child's class teacher.

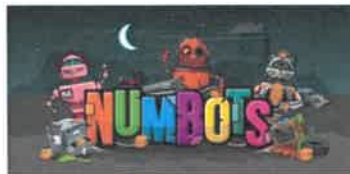
Online support includes:



**Classdojo**



**Times Tables Rock Stars**



**Numbots**

We receive daily bulletins from the Department for Education and will inform you immediately should circumstances change. As always, we would like to thank you for your continued support during these most uncertain times.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J A Jones".

Mr J A Jones  
Headteacher