



St. Anthony's

SPECIALIST SCHOOL ●●

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20th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to say that we are coming to the end of COVID but sadly with the number of cases in Thanet going up and up, I think the coming weeks will continue with a mix of classes learning from home and others being in school. This week we had two more positive tests, so since the start of Term 2 we now have had 8 positive tests, hence the massive disruption to the normal running of the school. Staff are working hard to deliver lessons remotely for pupils isolating and we are having great success, but we are not there yet as we wish to have all pupils engaged with their learning. A big thank you to parents/carers for supporting this new way of teaching and learning, it is very much appreciated. For those who are struggling, please liaise with teachers as they can help you to access learning.

For classes that are able to be in school, we continue to monitor our risk assessments and we are confident that the provisions we have in place are meeting the government guidelines of health and safety. If you have concerns or worries please feel free to contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team, and we will look at ways to support you.

Monday is a training day, so no pupils will be in school. Today we welcomed back pupils in Potter Class and next week if all goes to plan, we should be open for 10 out of our 11 classes by Thursday.

To support families we have been informed of two projects running which I think will benefit our families so please read on.

Free e-learning course

Free e-learning course for families and carers of people with learning disabilities, mental health concerns or autistic people with the challenges of living with Covid-19 restrictions. The aim of Positive Behaviour Support is to improve the quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities and/or autism as well as their families/ care providers. It's a proactive and preventative person-centred approach, focusing on teaching new skills to replace behaviours that challenge, seeking to understand the reason for that behaviour so that unmet needs can be met. For more information please see the links below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=epjud2Of610>

<https://www.bild.org.uk/free-online-pbs-awareness-course/>

Thanet based Fit and Fed at Home Project.

We have been invited to identify families to get involved with the Fit and Fed Project. The project aims to work in partnership with local secondary schools to offer support to vulnerable families impacted by COVID-19 or are facing several health and social inequalities that impact both young people and families.

The project will provide families with a FREE food hamper, sports equipment and wellbeing advice championed by a team of 'Wellbeing Coaches' who will support families throughout this journey.

The project is aiming to support around 700 families with the main objective to work with families to help increase their mental and physical wellbeing and help change behaviours.

The project is being funded for 6 months, KCC have commissioned Active Communities Solutions to run this project on behalf of Changing Minds Kent, whose team of coaches have a wide and varied skill set in working within the local community.

Please contact Jen Todd if you would like to be referred for this project.

Dates

Training Day – Monday 23rd November

Non-uniform – Friday 27th November £1

Non-uniform – Friday 11th December £1

Last day term 2 – Friday 18th December

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



Robert Page
Headteacher