

Newsletter



Saint Oscar Romero 15 August 1917-24 March 1980

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

Newsletter Issue 94 20 March 2020

Today, Friday, was the funeral of Fr Bob Wright, of St John Fisher, who we love and miss dearly. The service was beautiful and truly celebrated the life of a man who had a profound impact on the lives of thousands of members of our community. It was touching to see how many were there in person and how many joined the video link to offer their condolences.

It was with great regret that we learnt of the school closures announced earlier in the week by Boris Johnson, as this is one of the more exciting times of the year as the weather improves and our students get themselves well and truly into the mindset needed for terminal examinations. Sadly, that will no longer be the case as we play our part in stopping the spread of Covid-19.

The 24 March is the anniversary of Saint Oscar Romero, whom our MAC is named after. The final words of his homily before he was assassinated are even more pertinent now than they have ever been:

"We know that **every effort to better society**, especially when injustice and sin are so ingrained, is an effort that **God blesses**, that **God wants."**

Our effort to make society better has taken a strange and unprecedented twist, but as Saint Oscar Romero said, 'we are a community of hope' and we too hope that this pandemic will be swift so that we can all get back to a normal way of living and learning.

The school will be open to a small number of students next week, and it is important to re-emphasise the following points from the government: "the government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend." You will have noted that the list of key workers from the government is extensive, and schools have been advised to operate at no more than 10-20% of their normal capacity, therefore it is essential that these places are for those who need it most. Please therefore note the following government guidance: "Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be."

From Monday, there will be a link on the homepage of the website for students to contact the school if they have concerns regarding Safeguarding, Teaching and Learning, and Food and Welfare. This information will go to our staff, who will all still be working. We will leave you with some final words of Saint Oscar Romero that seem fitting in a time where panic buying and storing up food for oneself is becoming more and more prevalent:

Aspire not to have more but to be more, not to grab everything but to give abundantly to others.

God bless.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The link below will take you to the latest information on Coronavirus translated into 20 different languages:

https://www.doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/coronavirus-information/



024 7661 7231





YEAR 7 LOOK FORWARD TO SUMMER



This week, members of 7A started a project to sow wild flower seeds in one of the school's many green areas, in order to create a meadow for bees and butterflies to use for energy in the summer months.

Chloe already grows flowers, plums and cucumbers in her garden at home and she said, "Our meadow will make our school look a bit brighter".

Bernessa enjoyed gardening in her primary school allotment and she can see the benefit of supporting nature. Georgia has been inspired to create her own meadow with wild flower seeds that she recently found in a local supermarket.

Bernessa added that she, "Can not wait until May to enjoy our beautiful meadow and all the wildlife that will thrive there".

ACCELERATED READER

The Accelerated Reader stars this week are **Maria Amin**, 7C, our latest word count double millionaire and **Denzel Matigi**, 7B, for reaching one million.

Denzel has been reading the Alex Rider series, among other things. These brilliant books by Anthony Horowitz are soon going to appear on television. The series will be based upon *Point Blanc*, the second book in Horowitz's series, following *Stormbreaker*. It follows the teenager-turned-spy, and will star Vicky McClure (*Line Of Duty*), Stephen Dillane (*Game of Thrones'* Stannis Baratheon) and rising star Otto Farrant as Rider.



YEAR 10 PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

Year 10 Photography students enjoyed the morning at the Herbert Art Gallery, enjoying the

exhibition 'Quinn's Journey'.

'Quinn' is an installation by photographer, artist and writer Lottie Davies.

It is the fictional story of a young man, William Henry Quinn, who walks from the south west of England to the far north of Scotland in post-Second World War Britain.





The project comprises large-format photographs (see left), moving image pieces, ephemera and text vignettes, taking the viewer through a 'multi-dimensional' experience.



SIXTH FORM NEWS

SIXTH FORM AND BEYOND...

Former Cardinal Wiseman student, and star of many school drama productions, **Jordan McKampa**, has been making a name for himself in the music industry since the release of his critically acclaimed "Physics" EP in 2016.

He has just released his first album, *Foreigner*, and is preparing to perform a headline tour across the US, UK and Europe.

Although now London based, he says, "Living in Coventry definitely helped with my song-writing style, in terms of lyrics and phrasing because of the strong indie folk and ska scene".





CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

A letter from the President and Vice-President on behalf of all the Bishops of the Conference

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, so many aspects of our lives must change. This includes the ways in which we publicly express our faith. It is very clear that, following official advice and in order to keep each other safe, save lives and support the NHS, at this time we must not gather for public acts of worship in our churches. This will begin from Friday evening, 20th March 2020, until further notice.

Our churches will remain open. They are not closing. They will be a focal point of prayer, where you will find solace and strength. In visiting our churches at this time, we will observe with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social distancing.

However, the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation.

Knowing that the Mass is being celebrated; joining in spiritually in that celebration; watching the live-streaming of the Mass; following its prayers at home; making an act of spiritual communion: this is how we share in the Sacrifice of Christ in these days. These are the ways in which we will sanctify Sunday, and indeed every day.

We want everyone to understand that in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. This is, without doubt, the teaching of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2181). This pandemic is the 'serious reason' why this obligation does not apply at this time.

You will find more details about the pathway of prayer and sacramental life we are now to take in the accompanying document and on the Bishops' Conference website (www.cbcew.org.uk). Your own bishop and parish priest will provide further support, encouragement and information about our way of prayer together in the coming weeks.

The second vital aspect of these challenging times is our care for each other. There are so many ways in which we are to do this: being attentive to the needs of our neighbour, especially the elderly and vulnerable; contributing to our local food banks; volunteering for charitable initiatives and organisations; simply keeping in touch by all the means open to us.

During these disturbing and threatening times, the rhythm of the prayer of the Church will continue. Please play your part in it. The effort of daily kindness and mutual support for all will continue and increase. Please play your part in this too. For your commitment to this, we thank you.

'The Lord is my shepherd, There is nothing I shall want.'

May God bless us all.

Vincent Cardinal Nichols

+ Hincene Nichols

18th March 2020

President

+ Walcolm M' Walen op

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP Vice-President

Lent in Isolation

Lent in Isolation provides daily readings, a homily from a priest and an act of spiritual communion.

If you wish to subscribe to Lent in Isolation,

please follow this link.





ChatHealth Messaging Service

Text your school nurse or Health Visitor

During these unsettling times, as a parent of child aged between 0-19 year olds, you may be worried about your child's health and wellbeing and be unsure about how to get the help you need.

Our school nurses and Health Visitors are still here to help - you can text them for confidential advice and support on a wide range of issues.

Parent/carers of child(ren) aged 0-19 can send a text to: 07507329114

We can help with all kinds of things like:

Behaviour

Continence

Emotional health

Self-harm

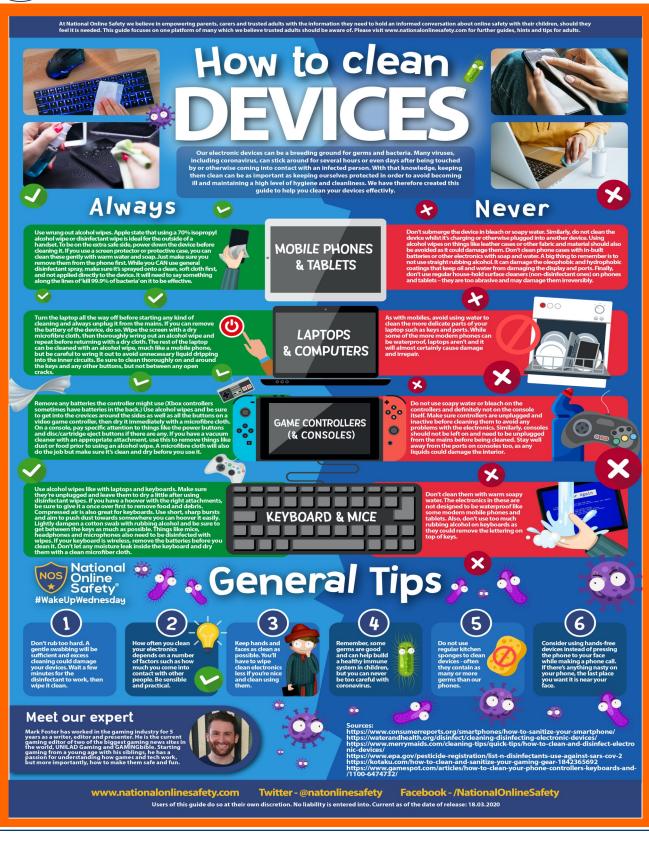
Bullying

Minor illnesses

Your ChatHealth messaging service is run by Coventry Family Health and Lifestyles Service and is available 08:30am-5pm.

We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate bounce-back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact you GP, NHS 111 or dial 999 if it is an emergency.







Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School

Potters Green Road, Coventry, CV2 2AJ

t: 02476 617 231

e: admin.cw@romeromac.com

 $\textbf{W:} \ www.cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk$

Executive Principal: Mr T Leverage