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24 June 2021

To: All parents of children due for admission to school September 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Further to my previous letter sent on 27 May 2021, I am now writing to you with our proposed plans for the children joining our Reception class in September.

Last year, due to COVID-19 restrictions we were unable to offer our usual programme of induction activities for our newest children, however, this year you will be pleased to know that with the cautious lifting of the restrictions nationally, we are offering the children the opportunity to visit the school for two taster sessions before we close for the summer. This will allow the children to familiarise themselves with the classroom environment and meet their new friends and the staff who will be working with them when they join us in September. The class Teacher is Miss Morris and she is supported by Teaching Assistant Mrs Fox.

I do not underestimate how daunting a child's first day at school can be - for both the child and parents - and I hope these visits will help to alleviate any anxieties surrounding the move from nursery/pre-school to primary school.

In addition to the visits, Miss Morris is currently in the process of visiting all the children in their nursery/pre-school settings to introduce herself to the children and get to know them a little before they take the big step of visiting the classroom for the first time. Miss Morris will also be contacting you soon by telephone for a brief chat to begin to help her get to know your child.

It would be our normal practice at this stage to invite you to a number of induction meetings to provide you with all the information you will need before your child joins our Reception class in September. Despite the lifting of the national restrictions, Warrington as you may know, is currently a designated enhanced response area following rising COVID-19 cases and the school continues to operate under tight covid-secure measures with access to the school restricted. We are therefore not permitting parents to visit/enter the school at the current time. All the important information you will need prior to your child starting in September will be shared remotely.



St. Oswald's Catholic Primary School, Padgate Lane, Padgate, Warrington WA1 3LB Tel: 01925 813015 Fax: 01925 820545

Head Teacher: Helen T Lennon

e.mail: stoswalds_primary@warrington.gov.uk or h-lennon@supanet.com

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Arrangements for Taster Sessions – Friday 9th July & Friday 16th July 2021

The children will be split into two groups and in their designated group will visit for either a morning or afternoon session on each of the two taster days. You will be notified of your child's group in a separate e-mail.

Children should arrive with their parents at the infant entrance of the school (next to the main office entrance) and wait, socially distanced, at the green gate. We politely ask parents to wear face coverings whilst waiting in the line. Miss Morris will greet the children at the gate and lead each child individually to the staff waiting in the classroom. If a child is unsettled or upset, we will ask the parent to move to the back of the line with the child while they settle them and try again.

At the end of the session, parents should line up at the same gate and Miss Morris will bring the children out to you one by one as each parent reaches the front of the line.

Friday 9th July

Group 1: Morning visit 9.30-11.30am

Group 2: Afternoon visit 12.30-2.30pm

Friday 16th July

Group 1: Afternoon session 12.30-2.30pm

Group 2: Morning Session 9.30-11.30am

Arrangements for September 2021

Monday 6th September: The new academic year will open for Years 1 to 6

Tuesday 7th September: Reception class start for half days only (am or pm) in their 2 groups

Monday 13th September: Reception begin full time as a whole class

Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th September

Group 1: Morning session 8.50am-12.00pm

Group 2: Afternoon session 13.00pm-3.10pm

Thursday 9th & Friday 10th September

Group 1: Afternoon session 13.00pm-3.10pm

Group 2: Morning session 8.50am-12.00pm

From Monday 13th September

All children in full time 8.50am – 3.10pm



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From next week we will open up a 'New Reception Starters' page on our school website www.stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk where we will start to post induction packs, information videos and new starter information in preparation for your child starting school. On this page we will be hosting a Q&A forum and invite any general questions you may have to be e-mailed to Miss Morris at eyfs@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk and we will post answers on the page.

I hope you will agree that this plan will provide your child with a gentle introduction to the Reception class in the best possible way within our current circumstances.

I very much look forward to meeting your child next month and getting to know them. I also extend a very warm to you and your family as the children begin their 7 year journey with us at St Oswald's.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mailing stoswalds_primary_head@sch.warrington.gov.uk or by calling the school on 01925 813015.

Yours sincerely,

Ms H T Lennon,
Head Teacher



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