



# St John Fisher Catholic Primary School

Part of The Romero Catholic Academy

*Through Christ we live, love and learn in our caring community.'*

**Spring Term 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020**

## **Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners,**

Here we are at the end of Week 2 of School Closure! I hope that you and your family are staying safe and are well. All of you are most certainly in our thoughts and prayers during this very difficult and uncertain time. Class Teachers have been making contact with each parent this week just to touch base about how things are and to discuss home learning. If you need any support, please do ask and we will try to help. I have seen some fantastic home learning both on Facebook and Twitter. Well done children! We have been very impressed with your enthusiasm. Of course we can't forget to thank Mums and Dads - our new super teachers. From the feedback I have had – you are all doing a wonderful job! This is a huge learning curve for us all but as an SJF School and Parish Community we know that we will continue to work together no matter what.

I would like to say a big thank you to all of the children who sang at Fr. Bob's funeral. You were all exceptional and your beautiful angelic voices were an amazing comfort to Fr. Bob's family, friends and parishioners. Many people were able to access the Mass on you tube. I know that Fr Bob would be very proud and he is smiling down upon us all and saying a prayer.

### **Message from Fr Peter (Supply Parish Priest)**

All of us need the prayers of each other in these deeply upsetting and painful circumstances. I think of you and your loved ones frequently, especially during mass and times of quiet reflection before a lighted candle. We rely on Jesus' promise to be with us always.

Supporting Each Other: Telephone support is vital at the present time. We all need encouragement throughout our lives -but especially now. Making and receiving calls helps sustain us. It is a key way of keeping the parish together. Do continue to ring any parishioners you know -particularly those who may be on their own. You can contact me at the Presbytery Tel (02476 443 459).

We have a new Parish Website, thanks to the Romero Academy, Please go to <https://sifcov.org>

We are all inspired by the Dedication of so many parishioners who work so tirelessly for the NHS and emergency services. As well as the teachers who prepare online lessons for our children and look after our young people's education in general and the well-being of key worker's families now. Generosity and self-giving is at the heart of being a Christian. Let us all help others in whatever way we can. I know you are already doing this and may God bless your goodness and mercy. Inspired by memories of Fr Bob's Christ-like example we journey forward, praying for him as he does for us.

**God Bless**

**Fr. Peter**



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## Weekly Worship and Song

Here is a link for the children to access to One Life Music. Dan and Emily have kindly recorded a liturgy for you to use at home. Our children will recognise Dan and Emily as they visited our school a number of times.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NL-ks4ZP6hs&feature=youtu.be>

## Primary Online Resources

**I know you have plenty to do with the Home Learning packs we have given to each child but here are some websites that you may find useful**

### Suitable for everyone

While the Scouts normally advocate the great outdoors, this is a collection of great ideas that can be done at home. You can create a tornado in a teacup, a catapult out of lolly sticks or maybe try a leaf collage of an animal. [www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors](http://www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors)

Home learning packs are available for all Key Stages which are free to download during the school closures. Teacher written worksheets and activities to support all aspects of the curriculum. [www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/covid19-school-closures](http://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/covid19-school-closures)

Andy's Wild Work outs are a more accessible exercise for those children who find the Joe Wicks ones a bit too much for them [www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p06tmmvz](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p06tmmvz)

School curriculum-linked resources available for home learning, with no registration. Resources cover English, Physical Activity, Health and Wellbeing and Maths for Key Stage 1 and 2. (ear-olds), with fun activities to keep children active and learning at home. <https://plprimarystars.com/news/home-learning-activities-school-closures>

Candice Brown gives live cooking lessons for children at 2pm on Wednesdays. Great fun to cook along and share the results with the rest of the family [www.instagram.com/candicebrown/](http://www.instagram.com/candicebrown/)

**Google view animals in 3D inside your own home.** This is a big trend at the moment for some light heartened fun at home. Here are some easy to follow instructions on how to do it if you haven't yet joined in.

1. Launch the browser on your smartphone
2. Head to [Google](https://www.google.com) and search for an animal of your choice
3. In the knowledge panel that appears at the top of search results scroll down to the section that invites you to meet a life-sized version of that animal up close
4. Tap 'View in 3D'
5. Tap 'View in your space' to launch your phone camera
6. If this is your first time trying the AR animals feature, tap Give access, then allow the prompt to 'allow Google permission to access photos, media and files on your device'
7. You will be instructed to point your phone camera to the ground to give the app an idea of the space available
8. The animal should then appear in front of you in augmented reality

If you do not see an option to 'View in your Space', download and install or update [Google Lens](https://www.google.com/lens).

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If you're after a moment of music and entertainment, then try listening to David Walliams' Marvellous Musical Podcast covering a wide range of musical themes from Mozart to Weird Instruments produced by Classic FM [www.globalplayer.com/podcasts/42KqAd/](http://www.globalplayer.com/podcasts/42KqAd/)

Whizz Pop Bang is a kid's science magazine and have released free resources for doing science experiments at home and science reading comprehension. There are lots of things across to try across all primary ages with no need to subscribe to use them [www.whizzpopbang.com/free-resources/](http://www.whizzpopbang.com/free-resources/)

## Supporting Reading and Literacy

The brilliant Michael Rosen can be enjoyed virtually through his channel on You Tube, with videos of him performing stories, poems and jokes. If you then want to do some learning activities around Michael's poetry, then try the other links to free downloadable resources [www.youtube.com/channel/UC7D-mXO4kk-XWvH6IBXdrPw](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7D-mXO4kk-XWvH6IBXdrPw) <https://resource-bank.scholastic.co.uk/resources/390681> [www.tes.com/teaching-resource/michael-rosen-learning-resources-6321579](http://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/michael-rosen-learning-resources-6321579) [www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/childrens-laureate/former-laureates/michael-rosen/poetry-resources-and-ideas-for-teachers/](http://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/childrens-laureate/former-laureates/michael-rosen/poetry-resources-and-ideas-for-teachers/)

Free audiobooks for children from audible. They are put into age groups and contain a slightly random mixture of titles but do include some classic favourites such as Beatrix Potter and White Fang as well as a few more up to date books such as Kid Normal. <https://stories.audible.com/discovery>

Words for life is the National Literacy Trust's website for parents. It has lots of fun activities, suggestions on things you can do together to support literacy and tips from top authors. [www.wordsforlife.org.uk/](http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/)

Local author and illustrator Alex T. Smith is doing his bit to help with his brilliantly madcap story starters on Twitter. A great way to get the creative juices flowing and if writing is not your thing then why not create your story with just pictures. [https://twitter.com/alex\\_t\\_smith?lang=en](https://twitter.com/alex_t_smith?lang=en)

Fiction Express have made their site free for the next 3 months. Every half term 3 books are published on the website in weekly chapters. The children can then vote on where the plot goes next and the author writes the most popular choice as the next chapter. <https://en.fictionexpress.com/coronavirus/>

**We will continue to keep you updated!**

**Take care and stay safe!**

**Mrs D. Williams**

**Principal**