



Headteacher: Mrs Donna Mitchell

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Friday 26 March 2021

Dear Parents and carers,

As part of our wellbeing day, our students lit candles in our chapel and reflected on these words from the bible:

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'"
John 8:12

We offered prayers for everyone in our community. You all continue to be in our thoughts and we hope that you all can see the 'light' at the end of a very challenging year.

News and Updates

Well-being Day

Students and staff had a fantastic 'Wellbeing Day' today; please see our Twitter and Facebook pages for some lovely pictures. All of our students have shown again what great ambassadors they are for Holy Family and our community. Thanks to our staff and guests who organised and supported the sessions.

Five Ways to Wellbeing:

Connect – The 'wellbeing in mind' team gave our students strategies to 'connect' with themselves and others in a positive and healthy way.

Take Notice - Each group took part in a liturgy and personal reflection using a variety of tools to support them. They lit candles in our chapel and had an opportunity for quiet reflection.

Keep Learning – Today we all learnt some 'British Sign Language' skills.

Be Active – Students took part in rounders, football, netball and tennis. It was great to see our 'sports leaders' organising groups and activities.

Give – We raised money for two charities: CAFOD and MDNA from our non-uniform day and by 'Walking for Water'.

In addition, as part of our 'Wellbeing Day', our 'anti-bullying' ambassadors reviewed our anti-bullying policy, which they will share with the rest of the school after Easter.

Reflection and Remembrance

On Tuesday, we observed the minute of silence at 12 noon. Our students watched a reflection prepared by the Diocese of Westminster, which remembered the people who have lost their lives due to Covid and gave prayers for their families. It also made us reflect and thank all the people who have supported us during the last year. We then put messages, thoughts and prayers on yellow hearts as part of the Marie Curie campaign.

Attitude to Learning Reports for Years 7 to 10

Reports have been sent out through our SIMs Parent APP. We asked staff to report on the attitude to learning of every student following their return to school. The large majority of students have shown outstanding and good attitude in all their subjects. Well done to all those students! We will be supporting any students who need help.

RSE Policy Consultation

Please see our proposed 'Relationships and Sex Education' policy which has been sent via the Parent App and is also on our website under Our School/Policies. Within the policy, there are links to the resources we use and the overview of the areas we cover with each year group. Following changes to statutory guidance all schools have been asked to consult and adopt a policy by September 2021. Our proposed policy follows guidance from the Catholic Education Service and is one adopted by our Academy trust. We welcome any comments and thoughts from stakeholders, please contact consult@holyfamilycarlton.org by Friday 16th April. Thank you. Governors will meet to review the policy on Monday 26th April.

Reminders:

- School reopens on Monday 12th April to all students at the normal time. It will be week 2 on their timetable.
- If your child has a positive 'Lateral Flow Home test', the advice is for them to go for a PCR test to confirm the result. Please keep us informed and check the government website for the latest guidance. We will still need to contact Public Health England and identify close contacts of any student who tests positive in the first 6 days of the holiday, so please use our enquiry email if your child has a positive PCR test.

As we break for the Easter holiday, we give thanks for the resilience of our community and the support we continue to give to each other.

**"Hang on to your hat. Hang on to your hope.
And wind the clock, for tomorrow is another day." E B White**

God bless and stay safe!

Yours faithfully



Mrs D Mitchell
Headteacher