



St Leonard's C.E. Primary School

"Nurturing Faith and Inspiring Success"

Southwark Diocesan
Board of Education
Multi-Academy Trust



Mitcham Lane, Streatham, SW16 6NP
Telephone: 020 8769 2712 Fax: 020 8664 6025
www.st-leonards.lambeth.sch.uk
Email: mgr@st-leonards.lambeth.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Simon Jackson BAQTS (Hons) NPQH
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Laura Akhtar BA(Hons) PGCE

16th November 2020

School Update

Dear Parent / Carer,

You may be aware that we have had confirmed cases of coronavirus which have affected our ability to make provision for 5V, 4S and Nursery. In the interest of transparency and with a view to maintaining trust between the school and our families, I wish to share everything that I know with you. By doing so, you can then be assured that you have the facts rather than mere rumour.

We cannot know from where or whom the virus was transmitted to our school in the first place. However, it is clear that direct contact between people within our breakfast club is the principal reason for the virus spreading to the different parts of the school. All those identified at risk due to attending breakfast club on a particular date were contacted and breakfast club will remain closed until further notice.

We remain hopeful that the spread may be contained but naturally I am not in a position to guarantee this. I would like to assure you that I have shared all the information I have with the Lambeth Public Health team and that all decisions taken thus far and indeed in the future will be based on instruction given by them. There will be no attempt on my part to take any inadvisable risk in relation to the health and safety of anyone, be it a child, parent or staff member.

So that all classes may continue to be taught, preparations are being made to make provision for all year groups from Years 1 – 6 via Google Classroom, and for Early Years via the see saw platform. You should be receiving details of your child's log in and password during this week. However, I must make you aware that teachers would not be able to teach via these platforms if they were unwell for any reason. In such circumstances, families will be directed to Oak Academy online or the relevant year group blog, the links for which may be found below:

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year>

<https://www.st-leonards.lambeth.sch.uk/class-blogs>



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I share any disappointment or frustration that is felt within our community. However, I am neither anxious nor downhearted. To be so would serve no purpose. More importantly it wouldn't serve you, the children or the staff.

Instead of asking, *Why us?* I'm asking, *Why not us?* This virus is within the community and we are at the heart of that community, so it is not a surprise, and whilst this experience does indeed consume our time, it does not diminish our spirit. We are a Christian school and we trust that we will not be asked to bear the unbearable. We will, as our school badge proclaims, *strive and persevere*.

I walked the corridors of the building this afternoon and witnessed just what a happy and engaging learning environment our school continues to be. So, until such time as I'm directed to do otherwise, the gates will continue to open and we will do all that we can to serve you and your children in as safe a way as possible. If the situation should change, then I would share details with you as quickly as possible.

To those who've expressed concern, I understand, acknowledge and accept it. To those who have expressed support and are keeping the school in their prayers, I thank you for it. To quote a well-known saying: *"Let our faith be stronger than our fear."*

Thanking you all for your continued support and understanding.

Kind regards,

Mr Simon Jackson

Head Teacher



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