

# Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Catholic Primary School



Clincton View, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 8JN Tel: 0151 424 6130 / 420 6214

E-mail Head - [head.olpsprimary@halton.gov.uk](mailto:head.olpsprimary@halton.gov.uk) Website - [www.olpsprimary.co.uk](http://www.olpsprimary.co.uk)

Head Teacher – Mrs P McGuffie

4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year to you all and I hope you had a good Christmas.

You will no doubt be aware that all secondary schools and some primary schools around London are having a delayed start to the new term due to rising transmission of Covid and concerns about the new strain.

There is some evidence to suggest that younger children are more susceptible to the new strain and transmission among children and staff will rise once schools reopen.

Halton schools have been instructed to open on Monday, 4th January. Our Lady's will be open on Tuesday, 5th January though, as we have an inset day already planned. However, many staff have been instructed by their union that it is not safe to return to work and my staff are currently assessing their position. Please believe me when I say they are very conflicted about this. They desperately want to return to work and do the job they love but also do not want to go against the instructions of their union who they rely on for support. Also, they are just as concerned about their own health and their families' as you are about yours.

I believe parents should be able to express their own views on what is or isn't safe for their own children. Many of you have kept children off in the past due to concerns about infection rates in the local area and Our Lady's supports this. I will continue to support this over the next week or so while we assess the effects of the new strain.

Teaching unions have advised their members that because of the spike in Corona Virus, it is unsafe for them to come to work, based on scientific advice. Therefore, unfortunately there will be 4 classes that will need to close and switch to online learning. Reception class, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 5 **will NOT** be open this week. Teachers will be in touch to organise remote learning. Year 3, 4 and 6 **will** be in school as usual.

Children of key workers and vulnerable children can continue to come to school. If you are a key worker and your child's class is closed (Reception, Year 1, Year 2 & Year 5) and it is not possible for your child to work from home, please let us know you require a place by contacting school by 3pm today.

*'We learn to love everyone as Jesus loves us'*



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I apologise for the lateness of this letter, however, things are fast changing with discussions taking place between the Government and Teaching Unions, hence I am only now able to provide you with this information.

Thank you.

*P. McGuffie*

Mrs P McGuffie  
Headteacher

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