

Education Resources Executive Director – Tony McDaid St Joseph's Primary and Nursery Class Head Teacher – Jacqueline Ross

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support over the last few months. Thank you also for providing the support and guidance to your children that we are unable to provide during this difficult time. Thank you to our amazing children who have been so dedicated, engaged, resilient and strong. We know that there may have been difficult moments over the last few months and many of you will have felt overwhelmed, but you have been fantastic and we are still here to support in any way we can.

As I am sure you are all aware, that on Thursday 28 June, the First Minister outlined the first phase of the easing of restrictions. Since then we have been working with South Lanarkshire Council to plan a timeline for June and to start making plans for August. The time in June will be, in the main, for setting up the school for the return of pupils in August. Once we have confirmation of the arrangements for August we will share this information with you. Transition information will also be given in the next few weeks.

Online learning will continue throughout June. Please remember our teachers will have other commitments throughout the month of June in school and may not be as quick to respond as they currently are. From the 8 June you will be able to contact the school by phone as our clerical staff will also return but I would ask that you do not come to the school without prior arrangement.

Currently there are many unanswered questions and I would ask for your patience and continued support as we try to navigate our way through the coming months. We have been tasked with a huge responsibility in making our school safe for our children and at the same time ensuring it is still the nurturing environment that it has always has been. Our St Joseph's family is strong and we will work together and support each other to achieve this. Your fears and anxieties around returning to school and the easing of the restrictions are completely understandable and shared, and we will try our best to reassure you and your child. We have put together a HWB power point 'A message from Skipper'. It's a reminder for the children about some of the strategies they used to cope with tricky/ challenging situations. We will ask the teachers to put the power point on Google Classroom and you/they will also be able to access it via the website and twitter.

In the next few weeks staff will be working hard to prepare for August and I will update you as and when I can.

In the meantime take care.

Kind regards

Jacqueline Ross

Head Teacher