



**Cardinal Wiseman
Catholic School**
Part of The Romero Catholic Academy

Newsletter

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

Newsletter Issue 101 26 June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have enjoyed something that resembles 'summer' over the last few days. I'm sure that you will have seen the pictures of the public flocking to Bournemouth beach and those of the people of Liverpool congregating around Anfield to celebrate them winning the Premier League. Whilst I won't offer a direct comment on those choices, I will say that we will be sticking rigidly to our risk assessments and maintaining our bubbles of students who are on site at any one time. As always, we await further government guidance on what the next steps are, and often we find those out at the same time as yourselves, but we have planned for various models up to the end of term and for September which can be adapted as needed.

In the coming week we will be launching our live transition events, which will give our future Year 7 students the opportunity to meet some of the key staff members and ask them questions about Cardinal Wiseman. It will be live-streamed via a Microsoft Teams link which has been sent out via email and other social media.

It was also positive to hear, in the last week, that places of worship can now plan to reopen in the near future, giving us the chance to gather as a Catholic community in church for the first time in months. Faith has carried us through these testing times and I am sure we all look forward to the first Mass when we can congregate together.

Have a wonderful, warm, and safe weekend.

God bless.

Mr Everett
Head of School



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admin@cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk



www.cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk

Parent/ Carer Survey – Your Voice Matters

At Cardinal Wiseman School, we strive to provide the highest quality of education in which all our pupils reach their God-given potential; your view is important in providing feedback on how *well* we are achieving our vision.

To this end, we are delighted to share our third annual survey to parents/carers across all eight schools within The Romero Catholic Academy between June 24– July 15.



Through this survey, we would like to know what you think is working well and what you would like us to improve. We have added some additional aspects in light of the current climate and we thank you for your patience as we have navigated the last four months.

The survey takes approximately 6 minutes to complete and comments are optional. You can provide your details or you may answer the questionnaire anonymously if you would prefer. As always, if you wish to raise a concern, there is a process to follow and we appreciate you bring it directly to the attention of staff at the school so we can resolve the matter in a speedy manner.

We would like to take this opportunity to ‘thank you’ in advance for completing our survey. The survey will be analysed at school level and across Romero as the results will be collated and viewed by the Board of Directors. We will share the responses and the key themes emerging in autumn with a ‘You said, we did’ update in our newsletter. We will also include answers to F.A.Q.’s on the website.

The link is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Romero2020>



Google Classroom

The key points for parents!



Please use the link below to access a guide to Google Classroom aimed at parents and carers dealing with home schooling.

[Google Classroom—Key points for parents!](#)



DOES YOUR CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS?
HOW ARE YOU DOING?

Get in touch with us if you would like an invite to our Video Link Coffee Morning using Microsoft Teams App (we can help you with this). Meet other parents in a similar situation. Share with others in a friendly, non-judgemental environment, together with a member of staff from SENDIASS and Carers Trust Heart of England.

**VIDEO LINK
COFFEE MORNING**
THURSDAY 2ND JULY 2020
(10:00 AM - 11:00 AM)  

To request an invite and for further information contact:
SEND Information Advice and Support Service
Tel: 024 7669 4307 or email: iass@coventry.gov.uk



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The link below will take you to the latest information on coronavirus translated into 20 different languages:

<https://www.doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/coronavirus-information/>

All students currently undertaking Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards should remember to change activities as needed to complete sections. More information will be coming out soon for other students in Year 8 upwards to sign up to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
Any questions contact Ms Jefferson on sjefferson@cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk

**Running Mentoring DIY Cooking
Yoga Photography Wii Fit Coding
Guitar playing Knitting Cycling
Sign language Gardening Walking
Painting Circuits Quizzing Jogging
Campaigning Money management
Vlogging YouTube fitness Dancing
Helping neighbours Dog-walking
#DofEWithADifference Languages
Tutoring Singing Martial arts Sewing
Pilates Crafting Blogging App design
Filmmaking Combatting loneliness
Cyber safety Family tree research
Online learning Foodbank collection
Website building Book reviewing
First aid Aerobics Driving skills
Programming Skateboarding**

Speak to your Leader or visit DofE.org/DofEWithADifference
for activity ideas you can do whilst social distancing.

Change your activities in the DofE app or eDofE.



Below is a letter from Cat Ballou explaining how to purchase school uniform under the present conditions. As this is a copy of the letter, it is not possible to click on the links embedded in the text. Please type the details into your address bar to access the sites. Thank you.



CAT BALLOU ORIGINALS LTD
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Email – sales@catballou.co.uk
Website – www.catballou.co.uk

CELEBRATING 48 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS IN COVENTRY

ADVICE FOR PURCHASING SCHOOL UNIFORM DURING
THE NATIONAL PANDEMIC

Dear Parent/ Carer,

COVID-19 has affected our lives and how we need to act following Government guidelines. This has resulted in us closing our store for the time being, but our online service has continued to help parents in these unprecedented times.

As schools are set to reopen, albeit on a phased basis, we are now preparing to reopen our city centre store in accordance with the Government guidelines. We will be limiting the number of people in the store at any one time to adhere to the social distancing guidelines. During this time we will need your help and cooperation to keep you and our staff safe from the virus.

We are making the following recommendations:

- Use our e-commerce website: www.catballou.co.uk, from the safety of your home, for delivery to you for a small fee or click and collect for FREE from the rear of our store (see our website for details). Purchases over £75.00 will now enjoy FREE DELIVERY. We do not make any profit on carriage.
- We recommend all the new starters order their new uniform early through our website whenever possible.
- If you are coming into the store please bring just one parent/carer per pupil.
- Consider wearing a mask for all attendees and follow social distancing guidelines marked in store.
- Use hand sanitizers available in store on entering.
- You will be directed to a place in store and will be attended there by a member of staff. Please refrain from touching surfaces like mirrors, shelves etc.
- We recommend measuring your child from the size guide on our website before coming into the store.
- You can secure your complete uniform and PE kit by putting down a small deposit and pay the balance when collecting.
- Please try to pay by card or apple pay (we take most cards including Amex), but we will still be able to take cash payments in store.
- For your peace of mind, we have secured all our stock of school uniforms and PE kits for September 2020 prior to the lockdown.

For any further questions, please email sales@catballou.co.uk, or visit our website www.catballou.co.uk for up to date information.

On behalf of all of us at Cat Ballou, we thank you for your continued custom and wish you well during these challenging times.

Yours faithfully,

Ashok Kapur

Ashok Kapur
Managing Director
Cat Ballou Originals Ltd



The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)



new and continuous cough

or



high temperature

or



loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If **you have symptoms** of coronavirus, you need to **self-isolate for 7 days**

If **you live with someone who has symptoms**, you need to **self-isolate for 14 days** from the day their symptoms started

For most people coronavirus will be a mild illness. However if you have any of the symptoms you should self-isolate at home

Stop the spread of coronavirus



Wash your hands more often and for 20 seconds

Use soap and water or a hand sanitiser when you:

- Get home or into work
- Blow your nose, sneeze or cough
- Eat or handle food



Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze and throw the tissue away straight away



Supervise young children to ensure they wash their hands more often than usual



Posters and lesson plans on general hand hygiene can be found on the eBug website



Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual using your **standard cleaning products**



Staff, young people and children should stay at home if they are unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature or loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell **to avoid spreading infection to others**

If staff, young people or children become unwell with any of the coronavirus symptoms on site, **they should be sent home**

We are asking schools, colleges, nurseries, childminders and other registered childcare settings **to remain open for children of critical workers and vulnerable children** where they can

7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

7 Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

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Preparing for Literacy: Improving Communication, Language and Literacy in the Early Years. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
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Education Endowment Foundation (2019).
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Breadmore, H.L., Vardy, E.J., Cunningham, A.J., Kwok, R.K.W., & Carroll, J.M. (2019).
Literacy Development: Evidence Review. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
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NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



Conversation starters for parents and carers: ONLINE CONTENT



Trying to start a conversation about online safety with children can be a daunting task. There are many reasons why children may not want to talk to adults about it. One might be that they don't think you'll understand or that you won't know how to help if they came to you with an online problem. It can also be hard to start a conversation about something that you might have limited knowledge about. However, with screen time increasing during the lockdown, it's important now more than ever, to be talking to children about what they are accessing online.

1 ASK THEIR MOTIVATION

Sometimes it's easy to assume we know why children choose certain games or apps. It can seem obvious, like the child interested in football will be enthusiastic about the new FIFA game. But sometimes it can be more subtle than that. It could be that it's an outlet for their creativity or it might be that they like the look of the main character. Learning their motivation and knowing why they like it can help advising them on how to use it safely and help you discuss the pros and cons.



6 MAKE TIME TO LISTEN

When your child can't wait to tell you about their new game, always try and listen to what they say. We always have a lot on our minds, so it's easy for us to drift off onto other things which may be more important. However try to stay involved and ask them more details about aspects of the game/app. Children will appreciate your interest and the more questions you ask, the more you can find out. If you act uninterested, then they are less likely to tell you about it again in the future.



2 CULTIVATE A BLAME FREE CULTURE

Children can often blame themselves if they come across something that scares them or makes them feel uncomfortable. There will be times when your child has gone against something that you have forbidden, however, most children do not intend to put themselves at risk. Therefore, it's important that your child is able to come to you with a problem and won't be blamed for it. Try to understand what happened and why and warn them of the dangers once more. Engaging in a 'told you so' dialogue or suggesting they are in trouble for not listening may deter them from reporting any future concerns.



7 ASK THEM TO BE THE TEACHER

Showing an interest in what children are accessing online is a great opportunity for you to learn something new as well. Children on the whole love sharing their experiences so by asking them to teach you how to use an app or play a game is not only a great way to bond, but you will also feel more empowered to talk about it. It is easy to shy away from conversations when the child perhaps knows more about the subject content than you do. This can help to turn this around.



3 SHARE PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Starting a conversation by sharing something that you've seen or that has made you feel uncomfortable can be a great opener. Talking about your own feelings can help children realise that it isn't just them - adults can be affected too. You can then go into how you coped with it therefore indirectly giving children advice on how they can also cope in uncomfortable situations. You can also explain that the reason that you've chosen to talk to them about it is because talking helps. Children will hopefully be able to see the parallels in the experiences and mimic your behaviour in future.



8 USE SCHOOL MESSAGING

It might be that your child's school has sent out a message about the Childline number or to remind children to use the CEOP button to report content. Ask the children what they learned about these at school. When would they use the Childline number? When would they need to use the CEOP button? What does it look like? Asking the children why the school thought that the information was so important that they sent out a message about it reinforces what they learnt whilst at school.



4 TALK ABOUT THE NEWS

Asking children what their response is to news stories around online safety can be revealing. For example, there has been a recent survey conducted by the BBFC who are currently campaigning for the application of age ratings and content warnings on video sharing platforms. What do they think about this? Can they think of a time when this would have helped themselves or someone they know? Are they against the idea? If so, why? Could they be accessing something they shouldn't be?



9 ASK ABOUT THE RISKS

Many children may know what online risks are and will happily explain the potential dangers. Listen and try not to be overly shocked if they tell you something that disturbs you. This can then lead nicely into you asking the question about what steps they are taking to look after themselves or what help they could seek if something goes wrong. Sometimes it's just nice to know that your children know the dangers and have taken steps to help reduce the risk for themselves - this is the ultimate goal.



5 ASK FOR ADVICE

It could be that you really do have a friend at work who is debating whether or not to let their child do something online, or it could be that you're bending the truth slightly, but hopefully the outcome would be the same. Don't be afraid to ask others for advice. Not only why they should let the child use it, but also what would they tell the child to be aware of. What are the risks? This will help you understand the risks yourself and what to look out for in future.



10 ASK ABOUT RESPONSIBILITIES

Try asking open ended questions about roles and responsibilities online. Who is in control of the internet? Who is looking after you whilst you are online? Who decides what is appropriate for children to see? This can reveal a lot about a child's perception about who is responsible for their online safety. If they believe that it is up to everyone else to keep them safe, then you know you need to have a conversation about how they can reduce their own risk.



Meet our expert

Heather Cardwell is a practising Online Safety Lead and senior school leader who is passionate about safeguarding children online and educating them around online risks. She has over 10 years as a Computing Lead and has successfully developed and implemented a whole school approach to online safety in schools, delivering online safety training to both school staff and parents and helping to roll-out a bespoke online safety policy across her local network of education settings.



11 ASK ABOUT SCHOOL ADVICE

Sometimes it's hard to know what to warn children about. If there is a new app or game that your child has come across recently, ask them what they think their teacher would say about it. What advice would school give them? What have they been told about trusting people online or about fake news? Finding this out would be a good way to hear what advice they were given at school and help you reiterate the same message. Quick reminders about what to do if something makes them feel uncomfortable or who their trusted adults are can make all the difference.



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Nurturing the Talent of Tomorrow
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