



**Executive Head Teacher - Miss. Helen Osterfield** 

Head of School - Mrs. Alison Moore

Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 20th March 2020

It is really hard to know how to write this week's Newsletter with everything that is happening globally and nationally and the huge impact it is having on all of us. We are currently facing unprecedented circumstances and very uncertain times but as always, our priority is the welfare and well being of our pupils and families here at St. Lawrence. I can't thank you enough for all your support, understanding and patience this week. Your kind words have meant the world this week and I feel very lucky to be part of the St. Lawrence community.

Our school status has been defined as a 'Majority Enforced Closure'. This means that the school is closed to all children until further notice, apart from those who have been identified as 'vulnerable' according to government criteria and those whose parents are key workers. Arrangements will be made for these children to be looked after (during school hours) throughout the period of closure. If you fall into one of these categories then we will be contacting you separately to advise you of the next steps as we move into the second phase.

During the time of closure we have organised an online digital platform '**SeeSaw**' for those pupils who will be learning at home. Children and parents at home will have access to this site through a 'log-in' and teaching staff will upload work on a Monday morning. Please be mindful that teaching staff are also planning and preparing lessons for those children who will still remain in school so expect a response within 7 days of posting rather than an immediate response. Earlier today you will have received a list of useful websites that you can access to help with learning whilst your child is at home.

It has been strongly advised that if children can be kept at home then they should. This also applies to part-time key workers who may have days off during the working week. I cannot stress how important it is to keep your child at home if you are able to do this in order to stop the spread of the disease and protect us all. Can I just remind parents that we are not a childcare provider we are offering a public service helping our key workers in this time of crisis.

As we are enter the Government's 'delay' phase of the spread of 'COVID-19' we urge to follow all NHS guidance and take seriously the key messages of 'social distancing' and 'self-isolating'. Take it as time to reconnect as a family and concentrate on all things that are truly important in life. Revel in the opportunities available to learn to play an instrument, learn a new language, cook something you've always been previously to busy to make or take time in the garden to appreciate the magnificent natural world. Above all else stay safe and look after yourselves and your precious little people. We will all be thinking about you and looking forward to the time when we can all meet again, which will hopefully be very soon.

God Bless you all.



Mrs Alison Moore and the team at St. Lawrence Primary.

