



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Wednesday 14 September 2022

Dear parents/carers,

Following the death of Her Majesty the Queen, as you will know, we are now into a period of national mourning that will continue until the end of the day of the State Funeral on Monday 19 September 2022.

Students have continued to attend school as normal throughout this period of national mourning and reflection and we have been holding assemblies to commemorate the life of Her Majesty. This week Mr Bazen has been focusing on the value of Faithfulness' and exploring the commitment to her duty that the late Queen showed throughout her remarkable 70 years as our sovereign. Students have been asked to reflect upon what they are called to do and how they can use their talents for the good of others.

Please note that now that it has been announced that Monday 19 September will be the funeral of the Queen, this has been declared a bank holiday and all schools will be closed as a mark of respect.

School reopens on Tuesday 20 September at the normal time.

Of course, if students and young people are upset, we have been supporting via our pastoral care team. I attach, too, a link to [MindEd](#) This is a source of information to support students and their families when managing death and loss.

As part of our ongoing commitment to the memory of Her Majesty, a remarkable woman of faith, humility, and inspiration, we are inviting the school community to leave a lasting mark in this unique moment of our nation's history in two ways:

- In school, students will be able to write a message, a prayer, a reflection, or memory in a book of condolence that we will then keep here.
- For the wider family of St Joseph's, you may like to complete the online form, sharing your own memories, or even visit/meeting with Her Majesty. We will use these contributions to complete an 'online' version, entitled 'St Joseph's Remembers'.

Many of you will join in the period of reflection and silence this Sunday night at 8pm. In school, we will mark this moment this Friday morning at 9:00am when Mr Blaho will lead a short reflection with the school observing two minutes silence.

For your support of our schools, its staff, and Governors at the start of this new school year, we are forever grateful.

Yours sincerely

Mrs RA Ridley
Headteacher

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"
Matthew 5: 4