



2 April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

'AN EASTER PEOPLE'

In a letter in 1986, Pope John Paul II (quoting the fifth century Bishop of Hippo, St Augustine) wrote, "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people, and Alleluia is our song." This, surely, is the great gift of Easter: hope.

The season of Easter is one of transformation, as we journey from anguish to optimism, from fear to joy and from doubt to belief. Against a backdrop of continuing uncertainty, we are called to rediscover what it means to be an Easter people as we take another journey, navigating our way out of the coronavirus crisis.

The Gospels remind us that the risen Jesus met each of his friends and followers in their need – in their loneliness and grief, in their isolation and worry, in their insistence and longing for touch – and offered them a love beyond any which they had ever known. So, too, must an Easter people reflect that love into the lives of friends and neighbours, especially at a time when it can feel difficult to sing 'Alleluia'. As Jesus speaks peace to our fears and draws us near to him, so must we offer this blessing to one another.

Full school reopening

Yesterday, the First Minister set out the priority placed on ensuring all children in Wales will return to face-to-face education on Monday 12 April 2021. This means that all pupils may now return to St Teilo's on a full-time basis after the Easter break. You can read the First Minister's statement [here](#).

The usual COVID-secure arrangements remain. Please make sure you have familiarised yourself with these by visiting our frequently asked questions page [here](#).

Centre Determined Grades

On 24 March 2021, I set out the school's approach to Centre Determined Grades for pupils in Years 11, 12 and 13 (and those in Year 10 studying English Literature). You can read about our plans [here](#).

The consultation on this plan closes today so please ensure you have shared your observations by emailing headteacher@stteilos.com.

Attendance to school, on time and every day, is essential during the assessment window until 28 May 2021. Absence may negatively impact on outcomes for your child.

Keeping in touch

Please do continue to visit our website [here](#) for the latest announcements. You may also wish to follow us on twitter [here](#).

Bishop John Austin Baker said, “The crucified Jesus is the only accurate picture of God the world has ever seen, and the hands that hold us in existence are pierced with unimaginable nails.”

Today is Good Friday. Let us behold the crucified Jesus. Let us behold the hands that hold us in existence. Let us behold God.

Christ is with us. We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song.

Pasg hapus iawn i chi i gyd

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Loynd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'I'.

Mr I Loynd
Headteacher