

ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bradford Avenue, Sunderland, Tyne & wear, SR5 4JW Telephone 0191 536 8090 www.stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk office@stjohnboscosunderland.org.uk

8 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

RAAC Update

We are delighted to inform you that we are in the final stages of the repairs to St. John Bosco School. Building works are nearing completion and we anticipate additional works such as repainting, the fitting of a new fire alarm and a deep clean will be completed over the coming days. Full Health and Safety and Safeguarding checks will also be conducted and our IT and phone systems will be reinstalled. Terry and the team from Baines Construction Ltd have worked tirelessly to get us back into school so that the children can enjoy their final half term of the summer together. We thank them for all of their hard work and dedication to the project.

As you know we made the decision, alongside the Department for Education (DfE), and Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust, to remain in our current provision until our oldest children had completed their SATs, which begin on Monday 13th May. This was to ensure as little disruption to them as possible at this important time.

We are very excited to say that the school will reopen after the May half term holiday on <u>Monday 3rd June</u>. You have all supported us so well during what has been a truly unprecedented time for the children, staff and whole community. We will never be able to thank you enough for your loyalty to our St John Bosco Family.

We are now faced with the magnitude of moving back into school with as little disruption to the education of our children as possible. With this in mind we have made the decision, alongside the DfE and BCCET, to close school early before the May half term holiday. School will be closed on **Thursday 23rd May and Friday 24th May** however we will facilitate online learning for those two days so that pupils may access work from home. This has not been an easy decision to make, and we understand that this may cause some disruption to our families. We simply do not have the staffing capacity to safeguard the children with appropriate ratios and unpack the whole school ready to teach after half term.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have helped us get to the point we are today: The Sisters of Mercy for accommodating and welcoming our children from Year 1 to Year 6 to Gabriel House, English Martyrs' Primary School for accommodating and welcoming our youngest children in EYFS, the catering staff at both St. Anthony's and English Martyrs' for providing school meals every day and Whitestar Travel for stepping in to transport our children each day, never letting us down. Thank you just isn't enough. We really could not have managed this without you. Thank you to our wider Trust and the DfE for supporting us all of the way. Our biggest thanks go to our families for your unwavering support and to our children for being a credit to their families, our school and themselves.

We very much look forward to welcoming you through the doors of St John Bosco School, once again!

Best wishes

Mrs L Peart Headteacher