

6th November, 2019

Dear Parent / Guardian / Carer,

School closure: Thursday, 12th December 2019 for the General Election

INSET day change - see below for more details

I am sure you have seen or heard the news that the Government have decided to hold a GENERAL ELECTION on Thursday, 12th December 2019. Unfortunately, Kirklees require us to be a polling station for this vote. I have requested that school will not be used as a polling station but unfortunately we are the only Kirklees owned building within the borderlines and so it has to be us. It is worth noting at this point that the returning officer has the right to close the school in order for the vote to go ahead and that lines up with Kirklees advice. So due to a number of reasons (some are outlined below), I have been left with no choice but to consider the safety of the pupils and take the decision to close the school.

Please note that Kids club will also be closed on this day as they cannot use the premises.

Some of the reasons for taking this action include:

- Concerns regarding the safety of the pupils when it is likely to be a much higher footfall on school grounds than during the last vote.
- It would not be practical at this time to organise a trip for a class of pupils so that we could part close as we did last time.
- We are able to swap a later INSET so the children do not lose another teaching day and we can give parents plenty of notice for this swap (please see below)
- Kirklees advise that the school closes and the returning officer requires the use of the hall this time, which means that our ability to safeguard the pupils would be compromised.

I can only apologise for this and I hope that you have been given enough notice to make alternative arrangements. In order to ensure that the pupils do not lose too many of their statutory teaching days, **school will now be open as usual for pupils on Friday 14th February 2020** in order to compensate for the lost day.

Further to this, we have rearranged some events that were due to take place that day:

- Year 2 nativity will now take place on Wednesday 11th December at 9:30
- Year 3 nativity will now take place on Wednesday 11th December at 2:15
- The Flu spray will be rearranged and a new date sent out as soon as we are aware of this.

With thanks for your continued support and patience in this matter.

Miss Hayes and the staff of St. Paulinus (Headteacher)

'An outstanding school, which is deeply committed to the Catholic mission... this school inspires all within this faith community to live life to the full.' Ofsted 2017

C:Users\Ellen Sinclair\Documents\Parents Letters\Year - Term 2019-20 ACADEMIC YEAR\2019-11-06 Dear Parents - Closure for Polling Station Election (12 Dec).docx