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Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you with the latest update with regard to COVID – 19 and the situation in school.

Mrs Slater and her husband are expecting their first child in August which is very exciting news. Following the advice from the Government yesterday, Mrs Slater is taking the precaution to remain at home for the time being. We have covered the class with a supply teacher today, but plan to cover her absence internally thereafter as long as we have enough staff to do so.

Collective Worship is now taking place in classrooms on a daily basis and in smaller groups once a week in the hall. Next weeks' visits to Modern Hall (Snuff Mill) for Year 5 and Hampton Court for Year 6 have been cancelled as we do not want the children to travel on public transport. All further visits including residential visits, will be kept under review. The SJSA 'Carers' event tomorrow and the Netball Tournament on Friday have also been cancelled.

What we need you to do:

- If you've recently changed your contact details, please inform the school office **as soon as possible** via email office@st-johns.croydon.sch.uk
- Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough)
- Talk to your children about the coronavirus. It's a scary time and we should make sure children feel supported. [BBC Newsround](#) has regular updates for younger children and [YoungMinds](#) has practical steps older children can take to help with anxiety

Some families have needed to self isolate which we understand. In these circumstances, we are very grateful that you are requesting work and are keen to continue with the planned learning, but we do not have capacity to respond to these requests. Whilst school is open, all staff are working hard to plan, deliver and mark the work set for the class. Please refer to the curriculum web sent out at the beginning of term to learn about the topics that are being taught in class and continue with daily reading.

It is a tricky time and we know you are worried about the impact the Coronavirus might have on our community. It's important we keep each other safe, pray for one another and talk about these events to help with any anxiety. During these uncertain times, we would like to bear in mind our families and those in the community who are in financial crisis. If you can spare any tinned food, pasta, rice or toiletries, we would be really grateful. Please drop the items off in the Octagon.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Martin