

St Wilfrid's Catholic School

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Diocese of Arundel & Brighton and West Sussex County Council

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that this letter finds you well. We are conscious that the previous few weeks have necessitated our students to engage in significant amounts of time on-line and on-screen in order to access their school work. We are delighted with the engagement of our students, both in their work and their Tutor group well-being sessions, but increasingly aware that that being in front of screens for sustained periods of time is not conducive to the general health and well-being of our young people. This has been recognised through surveys of our students as well as feedback from tutor sessions and contact with parents.

To this end, for the duration of next week we will be minimising the amount of learning time based around "screens" for all of our students. Academic work will still be set, but around half of the learning tasks set will be designed to get your child to engage with their subjects in a "non-digital way," to reflect on the world around them, participate in family and household tasks and, weather permitting, take part in activities outside the home.

Furthermore, on Friday all tasks set will "away from screens" and students can choose to engage with a range of "non-digital" activities, which they can do and send evidence of completion to their tutor or Year Leader if they choose to. Students can of course, choose to use this time to catch up with work if they wish – but there will be no compulsion for them to do this, and it will be their choice. Students who are attending school on that day will be able to choose between a mixture of PE/Reading/Drama/School garden/Catch Up activities, and will be provided with more details next week.

In addition, students asked to have opportunities to have more calming, spiritual activities offered to them. With this in mind, next weeks "Message" is based around the theme of **Sacred Space** and is specifically designed to lead you through the process of Adoration. The link will be emailed out to students and parents on Monday and will be available through the St Wilfrid's YouTube site.

We will continue to review the academic, pastoral and spiritual provision that we offer to our students as this period of "remote learning" continues, and when we hear the Government's announcement on schools in the week beginning 22nd February.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Franke
Deputy Headteacher