



St Patrick's RC Primary School, Dipton

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Headteacher: Mrs J Burgess

We follow in Christ's footsteps

Tuesday 1st December 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian

Facebook

We are constantly looking into ways to celebrate the success of our students throughout their time at St. Patrick's.

We are planning to set up a dedicated school Facebook page in order to provide parents with regular access to school news, event reminders and showcasing our fantastic students.

We are all obviously aware of the dangers and pitfalls of such social network sites but, we feel, if used appropriately as a school, it has fantastic potential helping us keep in constant communication with parents with their busy lives.

We do not see the use of a Facebook page replacing our school website, text messaging or newsletters, but complementing the existing platforms we currently utilise.

We will send a text tomorrow morning (Wed) to ask for your consent for your child/ren to appear on our Facebook page. Please reply with FACEBOOK YES or FACEBOOK NO followed by the pupil(s) names. We appreciate we have requested a number of consent texts lately and we thank you for your co-operation in working with us by replying promptly as requested.

We have come up with the following set of guidelines:

- Students names will not appear alongside their photograph;
- Student personal information will never be posted online;
- Parents will be unable to create new posts on the page;
- Communication via Facebook messenger will be disabled and parents will need to contact the school via telephone as per the current arrangement.

Please also note the additional points overleaf.

As always, if you have any concerns/queries, please email us at:
diptonstpatricks@durhamlearning.net

Yours sincerely
Mrs J Burgess
Headteacher

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POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF USING SOCIAL MEDIA:

- Improvement of communication links with Parents / Carers;
- Allow for early notification of changes to the school day/school activities;
- Promote the successes of the school and our students to a wider audience;
- Allow greater engagement with school sport and promote shared values;
- Promote literacy and extended learning through the posting of links to relevant material.

PARENT / CARER RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Individuals must not abuse this communication facility in any way. This includes adding comments that may be offensive to others;
- Any individual sending inappropriate comments will be blocked immediately;
- Individuals must not apply to be friends with staff members' personal accounts;
- Only children over the age of 13 should have access to facebook.

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