**Welcome to Holy Family Primary School**



**Getting Ready for School**

**Dear Parent/Guardian,**

**Welcome to the next chapter of your child’s journey! It is a time filled with exciting anticipation for them and maybe a little apprehension for you.**

**We here in Holy Family, have spent time getting to know your child through visits to your child’s nursery but unfortunately the school visits that your child had been invited to had to be cancelled due to covid 19.**

**By now, your child has experienced 2 or more years of early education and it is with this in mind that we would like to offer you some helpful activities and some top tips that will ease your child’s transition into school.**

**Please take the time to complete the booklet with your child as you will be able to see things that they find very difficult and give them lots of help and support.**

**Look forward to meeting you all in August,**

**Holy Family Primary Staff x**

**Top Tips for School**

1. **Reassure your child that school will be a happy and safe place for them to attend.**

**They will feel better about coming to a new environment if you focus on the positive**

1. **Make sure that your child is able to make a good attempt putting their jacket on and off.**

**Your child will be asked to do this at least 6 times each day so it will help them greatly if this is a skill they have or nearly have.**

1. **Ensure that your child can go to the toilet independently and is encouraged to always wash their hands afterwards.**

**Children will have free access to the toilets and in school we ask that they can wipe themselves and clean their hands of germs afterwards.**

1. **Practise encouraging your child to sit for extended periods of time on an activity eg. completing a jigsaw, colouring a picture, building lego.**

**Children do many activities in school but at times they need to sit in a group and work with others so it helps them to complete tasks and increases concentration.**

1. **Encourage your child to use good manners eg. Saying please and thank you, waiting their turn.**

**This is very important as we are proud of the way our children treat one another and others and it helps children settle into routine much easier.**

1. **Allow your child to make simple decisions and good choices eg. What snack they might like, what game would they like to play.**

**This will help children when choosing what to eat in the dining hall or in what order to eat their packed lunch.**

1. **Help your child to pack a bag eg. for a sleepover, day out, playdate.**

**Children need to unpack their bags each morning and put away their snack, homework pack and packed lunch. They also pack their own bags at home time so need to be able to organise themselves for**

**this.**

1. **Encourage your child to help tidy their belongings and space eg. at home, after playing a game or their bedroom.**

**Children are actively involved in keeping their desk, class and school tidy. To do this it would help if they can practise at home. It helps you around the house too!**

1. **Help your child to speak to others clearly and confidently so that they can be understood.**

**Children find school much easier if they are able to ask the teacher or other adults for help, ask to go to the toilet and can tell adults what they need.**

1. **Teach your child to dress and undress themselves including fastening and unfastening shoes.**

**Children participate in two P.E. sessions per week and are expected to change their clothes and shoes at these times. Although the teacher will be there to assist, please remember that there can be up to 25 children in the class who all need assistance so the more children who are able to do this the better.**

**Helping at Home**

* **Read to your child each day**
* **Practise counting numbers up to 10**
* **Practice writing/recognising their name**
* **Practise using scissors safely**
* **Limit screen time for electronics**
* **Play board games where turns are taken**
* **Remind them of Road Safety rules**
* **Look at letters/numbers out in your area**