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Head Teacher

## St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

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*Through following Jesus, we aim to be a caring, happy school, where everyone is valued and appreciated and can reach their true potential. We hope to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with our God.*

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22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents/carers,

### Scripture of the week

*“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way.  
The Lord be with all of you.” (Thessalonians 3:16)*

### Advent Liturgies

It has been both a joy and a pleasure to welcome so many of our families back into school this year. It has been fabulous to have our children sharing their musical talents and readings with you centred on the birth of Jesus. We all look forward to welcoming you back in again next term to celebrate again with your children.

### Christmas Parties

These have been a great hit this week, the children have all had a wonderful time. A huge Thank you goes out to all the staff for enabling our pupils to have so much Christmas fun.

### PTFA

Thank you to our PTFA for sending in a present bag for every child in school. They were all sent home on Wednesday and Thursday this week. It obviously took a long time to sort all the bags out for every class and we really appreciate all their support and donations for our pupils.

### Annual Children’s nativity procession

Father Martin is encouraging all families to join with St John Vianney Parish at the Church of the Holy Spirit at 4pm on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December to take part in a community religious celebration in church. Everyone is encouraged to meet at the Church of the Holy Nativity to take part in a joint service and celebration hosted at The Church of the Holy Spirit. It is a chance for both parishes to come together and celebrate Christmas in church together.

### School Shoes

I really appreciate your help and support around uniform compliance and we have worked hard to reduce the cost of buying all branded goods. However, a number of the older



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children have started to wear expensive trainers to school. When asked why, they have said that parents think that the new poverty proofing school uniform policy allows for this. To be clear that whilst it says **plain black shoes/trainers** that does not mean black and white 'All-stars', white trainers or multi coloured football trainers or any other sort of expensive coloured trim trainers. If there is an issue around financing **black school shoes** then please do not hesitate to contact school office and I will approach the church's SVP group to help out financially.

### **Almost new uniforms**

There are still a large number of spare uniforms in school, please let us know if you would like any bagged up and sent home with your child. It would be a shame for them to be sat here if they could be of any use – we would be delighted to give them all away. You can send a confidential email to the office or speak in confidence to Mrs McDine, Mrs Thorpe or Mrs Meldrum at any time.

### **Car parking**

Residents on Ashdale Crescent are again raising concerns about parental behaviour at drop off and collection time. Parents have parked in front of drive ways and are reportedly being abusive to residents. I would urge all of our parents and carers to be understanding and supportive of our local community and consider where they park. Father Martin has again offered the church carpark free to anyone who wants to use it and walk over to school. Residents have been advised that they should contact the police directly reporting any incidents and giving registration numbers.

### **Reception Starters**

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-reception-places> Please be aware that the closing date for school starter applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023. It is always best to use the above link and then you will have a secure log of your application process.

### **Reception**

17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023, 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023 and 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023. Cooking with parents or grandparents. Please sign up for your slot outside the reception classroom. Mrs Duffy will be sending a letter out nearer the time.

### **Staff leaving**

We would like to wish Mrs Watson, in Year 2, a fond farewell as she leaves us to start a new job in Durham. We appreciate all of her hard work and support of her children and know that she will be missed.

Mrs Thornton, has decided to retire, after many long and happy years working at St John Vianney. I know many of you will wish her well and I am sure she will go on to enjoy many happy holidays visiting family.

### **Online safety**

As many of our children will be given electronic devices this Christmas, here are some tips for parents to help you keep your child safe online.

## How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS Android Phone

All Information Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trained adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children. Should they feel it needed. This guide focuses on one facet of many which we believe trained adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonline-safety.com](http://www.nationalonline-safety.com) for further guides, tips and tips for adults.

On Android phones, restricting access to particular apps usually requires going onto Google Play. From there, it's fairly easy to navigate your way through the settings to manage the parental controls and authentications relating to any apps on the device. These features can prevent your child from downloading or buying anything unsuitable for their age. Updated versions of apps or games that your child has already installed may occasionally contain something inappropriate, so we've explained how to stop those, too.

**How to Block App Downloads (This Also Disables In-app Purchases):**

1. Open Google Play Store
2. Tap the profile icon in the top right
3. Tap Settings
4. Scroll down to the Family section and tap Parental controls
5. Toggle 'Parental controls are on' and tap Parental controls are on
6. Create a PIN and tap OK
7. Confirm your PIN and tap OK again
8. Tap Apps & games
9. Set the age limit you wish to set
10. Tap Save to apply your changes

**How to Stop Auto-updates**

1. Open Google Play Store
2. Tap the profile icon in the top right
3. Tap Settings
4. Tap Auto-update apps
5. Select 'Don't auto-update apps' and then tap Done

**Restricting Apps Through Google Family Link**

1. Open Google Play Family Link for parents
2. Tap the three horizontal lines in the top left
3. Select your child's account
4. Tap Manage
5. Tap Controls on Google Play
6. Tap Apps & Games
7. Select the age limit you wish to set

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Apple devices come with built-in apps already available: Mail, FaceTime and Safari. For example, However, you can choose which apps and Features appear on your child's device and which ones don't. You can also manipulate the features in Game Centre to enhance your child's safety and privacy when playing games, as well as blocking iTunes or App Store purchases if you wish.

**How to Restrict Built-in Apps/Features**

1. Open Settings
2. Tap Screen Time
3. Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
4. Tap Allowed Apps (you may need to toggle this to 'on' at the top)
5. Enable or disable the apps you wish to appear (or disappear) on your child's device

**How to Restrict Game Centre**

1. Open Settings
2. Tap Screen Time
3. Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
4. Tap Content Restrictions (you may need to toggle this to 'on' position)
5. Scroll down to Game Centre
6. Choose between Allow, Don't Allow, or Allow with Friends Only in the settings for each feature

**How to Restrict iTunes & App Store Purchases**

1. Open Settings
2. Tap Screen Time
3. Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
4. Tap iTunes & App Store Purchases
5. Select Allow or Don't Allow for each feature (you can also lock these settings with a password)

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## How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS to limit age-inappropriate CONTENT iPhone

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The parental controls on iPhones allow you to block or restrict certain apps, features, content, downloads, or purchases. Setting limitations on content ratings, Siri and web searches enables you to filter out age-inappropriate content and ensure the likelihood of your children being exposed to unsuitable material is minimized.

**Set up content rating restrictions**

1. Open Settings
2. Tap Screen Time
3. Enable Content & Privacy Restrictions
4. Tap Content Restrictions
5. Choose the Settings for each feature you wish to restrict

**Set up web restrictions**

1. Open Settings
2. Tap Screen Time
3. Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
4. Tap Content Restrictions
5. Tap Web Content
6. Choose between Unrestricted Access, Limit Adult Websites and Allowed Websites Only
7. Choose which websites you wish to allow/block

**Set up Siri web search restrictions**

1. Open Settings
2. Tap Screen Time
3. Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
4. Tap Content Restrictions
5. Scroll Down to Siri
6. Choose to block either or both Web Search Content and Explicit Language

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The settings on an Android device allow you to prescribe certain rules for when your child is using it. For example, you can block specific types of content to reduce the risk of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate material (music with explicit lyrics for instance, and games, TV shows or movies that are unsuitable for young people). There are two ways to access parental controls on an Android phone: through Google Play or via the Google Family Link app. You can also lock your changes behind a PIN, so your child (or anyone else) can't change them back.

**Set up parental controls with Google Family Link**

1. On your phone, install Google Family Link for Parents
2. Tap Open and review the information
3. Tap Get Started
4. Tap Next to set up your child's device
5. On your child's phone, download Google Family Link for Children & Teens and enter the Family Link setup code provided
6. On your phone, open the Family Link app
7. Tap your child's name
8. Tap Manage Settings
9. Tap Controls on Google Play
10. Tap the content you would like to restrict
11. Choose how to filter or restrict access

**Set up parental controls with Google Play**

1. Open the Play Store app
2. Tap Menu (represented by three horizontal lines)
3. Tap Settings
4. Tap Parental Controls
5. Enable Parental Controls
6. Create a PIN
7. Tap the content you would like to restrict
8. Choose how to filter or restrict access

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### Fundraising

Over the last few weeks, various groups in school have been fundraising for different charities. As normal we have always offered parents the online link to ensure that parents only are able to donate what they can, however over the last few weeks some additional

fund raising has gone on. I am so appreciative of all the support you encourage your children to make – however big or small.

- School Council have made £160.24 by selling the Christmas Tree tags to go on our school tree
- Year 6 Faith in Action selling Christmas Cards for the People's Kitchen have raised £130 to fund Christmas meals and the purchase of gloves and scarves
- Whole school children in need PENNIES ON THE TEDDY organised by the Year 6 Faith in Action pupils raised £171.85
- Cafod – walk the world – Approx £50.00 (There are still donations coming in so we will come back to you with a final total)

### Christmas holidays

A quick reminder that school finishes at the end of the school day on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 and then re-opens after the holidays on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 8:45am.

### And finally...

The Governors and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents/carers and their families for all the good wishes which have been extended to staff over the last fortnight.

I would like to wish you all a very peaceful and happy Christmas, staff as always will continue to keep all our families in our prayers at this time of year.

Best wishes,

*A D Thorpe*

Mrs A D Thorpe  
Headteacher