



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

Hillhead Road
West Denton
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE5 1DN

Mrs A D Thorpe
Head Teacher

Telephone: 0191 2672233
office@stjohnvianneynewcastle.org
www.stjohnvianneynewcastle.org

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.

READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE

9th October 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

The last few weeks have flown by in a blur of activity for all of our children. They have now settled extremely well into their new classrooms, with their new teachers.

The new activities in the yard have vastly improved pupils' enjoyment at lunchtime and breaktime, the yard bob time is a particular favourite, so a huge thank you to Mrs Watanabe and Miss Cherry.

Curriculum Evenings

It has been wonderful to see so many parents attend the various information evenings staff have put on for you. The feedback from parents was that it was very helpful to working parents to hold it later on. The Powerpoints have been uploaded onto the school website for your information.

EYFS and Nursery evenings for new starters next year

The Early years staff are going to offer two invitation evenings, for any parents who would like to consider sending their child to St John Vianney next year, on Monday 13th November and Thursday 16th November from 4.15-5.15pm. The deadline for Reception place applications is 15th January 2024. <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-reception-places> We look forward to welcoming any new families into our school community.

Christmas Dates

Year Group	Parent group to attend	Event	Time
Nursery Rainbow	Rainbow Parents	Nativity Celebration	10am Tuesday 5 th December
Nursery Sunshine	Sunshine Parents	Nativity Celebration	10am Thursday 7 th December
Reception	Mrs Duffy Parents	Mini Nativity Play	10am Tuesday 12 th December
Reception	Miss Rice Parents	Mini Nativity Play	2pm Tuesday 12 th December
Year One	All Year One Parents	Christmas Liturgy	10am Wednesday 13 th December



Year Two	All Year Two Parents	Christmas Liturgy	2pm Wednesday 13 th December
Year Three	All Year Three Parents	Christmas Liturgy	10am Friday 15 th December
Year Four	All Year Four Parents	Christingle Service	10am Tuesday 19 th December
Year Five	All Year Five Parents	Carols by Candlelight	2pm Wednesday 20 th December
Year Six	All Year Six Parents	Carols by Candlelight	2pm Thursday 21 st December

Reminder about earrings

A quick reminder that earrings are not allowed to be worn in school at any time, by children. It is considered to be a health and safety risk as they run around and play together, then they could catch them and hurt their ears. If any child comes into school with earrings in, they will be given tape to cover their ears and removed from their PE lesson. You are welcome to contact Miss Cherry, the Assistant Head Teacher and PE Lead, who will reiterate the same message.

Snacks in school

All Early Years and KS1 children (Nursery – Year 2) are given a piece of fruit or vegetable daily as part of their universal school meals entitlement.

If any KS2 (Y3 – Y6) child would like to bring a piece of fruit in to eat at breaktime, they can.

However, please do not send your child into school with crisps, chocolate, fizzy drinks or high sugar snacks as these are bad for their teeth and not part of our Healthy School Policy.

School Meals

Please remember that if you want to change onto or off school meals the kitchen requires advance notice of this to ensure they have ordered enough food on the weekly deliveries. Please speak to the office, for confirmation of dates.

WhatsApp Groups

Please may I advise parents that if you have a query about something which may have happened in school, you speak to the class teacher directly. Please do not go onto the online social media groups and discuss incidents or confront other parents at school pick up time. Teachers will always be able to discuss issues with you, if you ring the school office.

Facebook

The staff are regularly updating the Facebook page with pictures of all the wonderful activities your children are taking part in at school. It is a fantastic way to celebrate and see what they do, whilst in school.

World Mental Health Day

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/world-mental-health-day#paragraph-47106> This week, pupils will be looking at ways to stay safe and look after themselves emotionally as well as physically. We use the 'Zones of Regulation' to support our children to make positive choices about how they feel. It helps children see that all emotions are valid, but it is how we react to how we feel that is so important.

Black History Month

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/> This month, every class will take part in learning about someone from history who has made an amazing change or positive impact on society. It is a

brilliant opportunity for our children to come together and celebrate incredible contributions of everyone in our wider society.

Brighten up for Harvest

It was great to see the children all smiling and happy last Friday, in their own clothes learning how to give to others. The amount of donations we have had has been overwhelmingly generous so we are dividing them up into two large donations, to the following charities: The People's Kitchen and CDW Foodbank. It is a real delight to have such generous and thoughtful families.

Deadline for Secondary School Applications

Reminder that all Year 6 parents need to have completed and submitted their applications for a place at secondary school before 31st October 2023.

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-transfer-places>

Carparking

Sadly, it has been brought to my attention by one of our local residents that parents have bumped and damaged a resident's car, and a few of our parent's at collection time are being verbally abusive and shouting at residents when asked not to block driveways. I am asking that all of our parents are respectful of our local residents, please do not block driveway access and if an accident happens please report it. I have recommended that local residents report cars and their license plates to the police if they are being verbally abused or their cars are dented.

Also, there are still parents parking in the staff carpark in the morning and afterschool. Please do not do this as there is not enough space for staff vehicles, let alone parents as well. Equally, there are so many children arriving and leaving school that it would be far too easy for a child to be knocked down.

As always we keep all the families, small and large, of our children in our thoughts and prayers.

Kind regards,

A D Thorpe

Mrs A D Thorpe
Head teacher