St. John Vianney Catholic Primary School



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City Council

18th December, 2020

Dear Families,

This has certainly been a year like no other! We started the year at St. John Vianney school with our usual vigour and school was buzzing with children living and learning to the full. And then, the pandemic struck. It is hard to imagine that there will ever be a time like this again. For many of our children, it meant that home-schooling became the norm. Mr Duffy retired as Headteacher of St. John Vianney school at the end of August, having served the families and community of West Denton as Headteacher for over twenty wonderful years.

In September, we welcomed back all 472 pupils into our school. School was very different in many ways to the school that the children left in March, but I was immensely proud of every single one of our children for the way they coped with all of the new systems and procedures that we had put in place over the Summer holidays. Their sheer joy at being back in school was an absolute delight to see. Since September, everyone has worked extremely hard to narrow gaps in learning that have arisen due to Lockdown.

We are blessed, at St. John Vianney school, to have such a dedicated and hard-working staff team, who continue to nurture our children in the most supportive way and who work tirelessly to ensure that every child really does achieve their true potential. To the entire team at St. John Vianney school, I express my deepest thanks for the part that everyone has played this term during a very challenging time. Your commitment to our mission has been simply outstanding.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our parents and carers, who contribute so much to the life of our school. Your co-operation and support this term especially has been thoroughly appreciated.

I would also like to thank Fr. Martin Morris, for the dedication and care he has shown towards the children and staff of St. John Vianney Primary school, and all of our Governors for their continued support this term.

Finally, I must thank all of our wonderful children. They continue to be true ambassadors of our school and they make our school the wonderful learning community that it is. I really am immensely proud of each and every one of them.

It has been my privilege to have served this community as Headteacher this term and I look forward to working with Mrs Thorpe as our new Headteacher in January.

On behalf of everyone at St. John Vianney Primary school, I wish you all a happy, healthy and Holy Christmas.

With my very best wishes,

C.Meldrum

Acting Headteacher