



15th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID-19

Please continue to take as many precautions as possible and if you have concerns then accessing an NHS PCR test is always advisable. School continues to follow a robust risk assessment to ensure that everyone can stay as safe as possible, but we also need your help with this. Please **DO NOT** send your child into school if they have COVID symptoms and please always try to access a PCR test whenever needed.

Facebook

You will see this week that more and more posts will be uploaded onto Facebook. Children are excited to share what they are doing with you all. However, we ask that as you comment on posts, please **DO NOT** write the full name of the child or children in the post. As a school we are only naming the year group – this is one of the measures to keep children safe online. Please help us as if pupils are named in full that post will be deleted.

Acceptable use policy

Please return the paper copy of the permission form as soon as possible as we are now uploading photos of your amazing children doing wonderful things in school and we want you all to be part of this. If you have not returned it, or said no to any section of the permission form then your child will not be shown on Facebook.

Reception / Nursery Parents

When you walk your child into the Early Years yard, please **DO NOT** bring insulated or takeaway cups of hot drinks, such as coffee. It is not safe, even if it has a screw on lid as hot drinks can cause nasty burns if spilt, however accidentally. If you are seen with a cup you will be asked to leave the premises. We really appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

Harvest Liturgy

On Friday, Year 4 lead the school in a beautiful reflective liturgy ensuring that we all had a moment to thank god for everything we have. Some of the Year 2 pupils took part in a liturgical dance to thank god for all the gifts we have been given. It has been uploaded to Facebook to share with families.

First Holy Communion

Please keep the year 5 children in your thoughts and prayers as they make their First Holy Communion on Sat 6th and Sat 20th November.

Holiday Dates 2022-2023

We have had some parents ask for our planned term dates for 2022-2023. As we will have joined Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust by then we are awaiting their instructions as to

what every one of the 39 schools' dates should look like. This is to ensure that wherever possible dates will be joined up and both primary and secondary schools take the same dates. As soon as we have been informed we will publish them on the school website.

Reminder about - Training Day – School closed

10th December 2021 – please remember that school is closed to pupils on that day, whilst staff are all in attending training.

PTFA

The PTFA have been hugely successful and from the own clothes day, doughnut sale and the fashion show they raised an amazing £1500, which school have agreed to match fund to buy books for our new school library. All of our children will benefit from this brilliant new and growing resource. I would like to say a huge thank you on behalf of all the children and when the new delivery of books arrives I will post some photographs on Facebook.

As the doughnut sale was so successful the PTFA are suggesting they do another one on 9th December 2021, but also ask that as many parents as possible pre order to avoid disappointment. A letter from the PTFA will follow.

Reception Visits for 2022 starters

If you or anyone you know is considering applying for a reception place at St John Vianney to start in September 2022 then we are running two open evenings where you will be given the opportunity to meet the Head teacher, the Deputy Head Teacher and some of the reception staff whilst also walking around our classrooms. These will take place on the 18th and 25th of November at 4pm. Please can you ring the office to book a space and wear a mask on the visit.

Anti-Bullying Week

Today, marked the start of Anti-bullying week, with the children wearing odd socks. From 15th – 19th November pupils will be focusing on specific activities around the Theme of 'One Kind Word'. Our pupils started the week with an assembly this morning launching this key message in school. Our children are exceptional at seeing and talking about each other in a positive way and they are excited about taking part in the challenge to use 'One Kind word.'
<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2021-one-kind-word>

Advance Notice of Children in Need

On 19th November it is the national Children in Need appeal. Pupils are all invited to come to school in their own clothes supporting the charity. The Theme this year is 'Together we can change lives' and it is a philosophy that we fundamentally agree with. Working together as a Catholic community we can all put our collective endeavour together and make a real difference. <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

Youth Friday & Youth Sunday

Youth Friday will be celebrated nationally on Friday 19th November, the Friday before the Feast of Christ the King. This was previously our National Youth Sunday, but as Pope Francis has asked Catholics around the world to renew their celebration of youth and young people on Christ the King Sunday it is now called World Youth Sunday. The theme this year is 'Witness: Share what you have seen'.

CAFOD

This is an excellent resource to help support you and your family at home with exploring the Catholic Values of justice, Peace, love and understanding. <https://cafod.org.uk/>

National Poppy Day – Remembrance

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/poppy-appeal> As a school we have been delighted to be a long-time supporter of the national poppy appeal for veterans. Thank you to everyone who sent money in last week. All your donations have been added to the poppy appeal collection tin and will be collected this week. Some of our pupils attended remembrance Sunday events this week and we are so proud of you all.

Attendance

Today, 164 children were given a 100% attendance certificates for last term, in recognition of them coming into school every day During September and October. We know that sometimes children are poorly and unable to come in, and during these COVID times we know that preventative safety measures are necessary however we are also delighted to recognise the dedication our pupils have to coming into school daily. Well done to everyone, and all those who did not manage it last term, the clock has reset and we will award new certificates for Autumn 2 at the end of December.

Advance notice of parent/teacher telephone consultations

| <u>Year Group</u> | <u>Staff Member</u> | |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Nursery – Rainbows | Thursday 2 nd December Mrs Lake | |
| Nursery - Sunshine | Friday 3 rd December Mrs Lake | |
| Reception | Mrs Duffy Duffy Wednesday 24 th November | Mr Cowen Tuesday 23 rd November |
| Year 1 | Mrs Langford Thursday 25 th November | Mrs Watanabe Friday 26 th November |
| Year 2 | Miss Cherry Friday 26 th November | Miss Prayle Friday 3 rd December |
| Year 3 | Miss Dean Tuesday 30 th November | Mrs Meldrum Thursday 2 nd December |
| Year 4 | Mrs Rutherford Tuesday 23 rd November | Mr Bonnar Thursday 25 th November |
| Year 5 | Miss McMaster Wednesday 24 th November | Miss Dolphin Tuesday 30 th November |
| Year 6 | Mrs Spencer Wednesday 1 st December | Mr Peacock Thursday 2 nd December |

A survey monkey form will be added to the school today, for parents to express a preference for a morning, afternoon and evening slot. Whilst we appreciate that some of our parents work and an evening slot is easier, I ask that if you are able to have a daytime slot then please ask for it. Not all 30 children's parents can be spoken to in the evening. If you would like a

specific phone call from the school SENDCo to discuss your child's specific learning needs then please make that known on the form.

Weekly Golden Book Assembly

Our weekly Golden Book Assembly is taking on a life of its own! It is becoming an amazing vehicle through which all of our children, whatever their talent or gift, has the opportunity to share it with the whole school. The number of certificates, trophies, awards and recognition plaques our children are being awarded by outside communities is fantastic. I couldn't be prouder of all of our children, so please remember if your child has been given an award/certificate for anything positive outside of school from piano playing, swimming, dancing, to being a Junior Fusilier or fundraising we want to hear about it. The pride with which your children stand up in front of 460+ of their peers Take care and as always, we keep all our families and our parish in our thoughts and prayers.

Best wishes,

A D Thorpe

Mrs A. D. Thorpe
Head teacher