



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.

READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE

10th March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

School Meals Price Increase

Newcastle City Council has informed schools this week that from the **Monday 7th April 2025**, they are increasing the school catering charge to £3 per meal. St John Vianney Catholic Primary School and BBCET recognises this is a significant increase for parents from the current price. We all know the importance of a pupil receiving a hot, nutritious school meal. Consequently, we are doing what we can to limit the impact of this cost and have agreed to limit the price passed to parents to £2.70 until 1st April 2026.

Request for information

In April, St John Vianney Catholic Primary School will celebrate its 50th Anniversary, I am hoping that parents and grandparents may well have photographs or items which remind them of St John Vianney over the years. We would greatly appreciate it if we could colour copy any old photographs or documents you may have which you would like to share with us. Please could you bring any items into the school office, and they will be carefully copied and returned to you. We would like to set up some memory boards of St John Vianney over the years! Please feel free to pass the word around and ask your friends, if you know any ex-pupils or staff please ask them to see if they are able to share any of their old school memorabilia with us.

World Book Day

It was delightful to see the effort all our pupils and staff had gone to in celebrating world book day, last week, our pupils even made the local press!! <https://www.chroniclive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/gallery/children-celebrate-world-book-day-31146831> Thank you for all your support and efforts in making the day a wonderful success.

Ash Wednesday

This was a beautiful way to start the season of Lent. Pupils from Y4-Y6 went to church to receive their ashes, whilst the younger pupils all received ashes in school. Pupils across school have been thinking both about what they can give up showing how they are joining in sacrificing something, but they are also looking at what positive steps they could make that would make a real and substantial difference in their lives. The voice for change and good is a powerful movement in this Year of the Jubilee of Hope.

Reading

As always, here at St John Vianney reading is hugely important and at the core of what we do. To continue to inspire and encourage the love of reading we have had authors visit school and lead on workshops and next week we have the local librarian in visiting. We want to encourage every child to join their local library from where they can borrow any number of books for free and delve into the worlds of fiction and non-fiction!



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School is part of the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust (BBCET) company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under company registration number No 7841435.
Registered Office: Fenham Hall Drive, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 9YH.

Parents evening

A reminder that parents evening will be on Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th March. The booking slots link will be sent out shortly by the school office.

Celebration of the Word

A quick reminder that all parents and carers are invited to a quiet reflective celebration of the word in the school hall with their child's class. This is not a show or performance, and not all children will have 'speaking parts.' Much more importantly we want parents and carers to see what sort of religious reflections our children take part in on a weekly basis, this is a moment in each child's week where they can take a quiet moment to pause and reflect.

Please note the date change to both Y5 classes.

March 2025			
Celebration of the Word 9:00am – 9:20am	Wed 26 th March Y2 Mrs Langford Thur 27 th March Y2 Miss Campbell Fri 28 th March Y3 Miss Cherry Mon 31 st March Y3 Mrs Bowden	School Hall	Parents are invited to join a prayerful moment with the children in the school hall. As this is a celebration of the word and not a school performance no photographs are allowed
April 2025			
Class Celebration of the Word 9:00am – 9:20am	Tues 1 st April Y1 Miss Dean Wed 2 nd April Y1 Mrs O'Neil Thur 3 rd April Y4 Mr Bonnar & Mr Peacock Wed 9 th April Y6 Mrs Black Thur 10 th April Y6 Mr Exley	School Hall	Parents are invited to join a prayerful moment with the children in the school hall. As this is a celebration of the word and not a school performance no photographs are allowed
Summer Term 2025			
Class Celebration of the Word 9:00am – 9:20am	Y5 Miss Dolphin Y5 Mrs Haughton Dates to be confirmed in summer term	School Hall	Parents are invited to join a prayerful moment with the children in the school hall. As this is a celebration of the word and not a school performance no photographs are allowed

Science Week

This week pupils from across school are joining in a wide variety of activities with a scientific theme to them. Please ask your child what sort of investigations they have watched Mr Peacock go through this week – there will be some specific challenges too...watch out for them on Facebook!

And so, to finish off with, here are some unusual science facts to share with your children this week...

- **Venus Spins Backwards:**
Unlike most planets, Venus spins backwards in a slow, retrograde rotation, which likely happened due to a massive collision long ago.
- **Astronauts Float in Space:**
In space, astronauts can float around because there's very little gravity, so everything becomes weightless.
- **You Can't Burp in Space:**
In space, there's no gravity to separate liquids from gas in your stomach, making it impossible to burp!

- **It can rain diamonds:**
Scientists believe that on planets like Neptune, Uranus, and Saturn, the pressure can cause carbon atoms to crystallize and turn into diamonds.
- **Babies Have More Bones Than Adults:**
Newborns have about 300 bones, almost 100 more than the 206 adults have, as some bones fuse together during growth.
- **Humans Get Taller in Space:**
In space, there's no gravity pulling them down, so astronauts can grow slightly taller!
- **Your Body Creates Millions of Cells Every Second:**
Your body is constantly renewing itself by creating new cells.

Have a wonderful fact-finding week this week and enjoying sharing all things scientific with your children.

Best wishes,

A D Thorpe

Mrs A D Thorpe
Headteacher