



Mrs A D Thorpe  
Head Teacher

# St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

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14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents/carers,

There is only one more week before the children break up for their half-term holiday, they have been wonderful over the last 5 weeks and the business of learning in every classroom is a pleasure to listen to.

### Attendance

As you know, we have been focusing on improving the attendance. Grant Short, our attendance officer will be contacting all families whose children's attendance has fallen below 90%.

Both arriving on time and not leaving early are also really important. Now that we are 5 weeks into the term, please note that the children's green entrance gate will **close at 8:45am** and any pupil arriving after that time will be marked as late. If you collect your child early this will also be recorded.

To help the office, please ensure that if you are taking your child to a medical appointment you show a copy of the letter to the office staff.

When collecting your child after school, please help everyone by following the one-way pedestrian walking system.

### Curriculum evenings

A big thank you to all of the parents who made time to attend the various curriculum evenings. It was a delight to have so many of you in school, and also gave you a chance to look at all of the new classrooms. Hopefully, now when your child comes home and tells you all about school, you will be able to picture what they are talking about.

### Black History Month

In line with many schools, our pupils are taking time to celebrate and learn from some of the amazing and positive examples of leadership and inspiration from people throughout the ages.

Year group	Person they are learning about
Year One	Mae Jemison
Year Two	Floella Benjamin
Year Three	Rosa Parks
Year Four	Harriet Tubman
Year Five	Katherine Johnson
Year Six	Martin Luther King

### Parents evening dates

After half term, parents are all being invited into school to speak to their child's class and look at their child's books to see the work that they have completed to date. It will be a great opportunity to see how they have settled into their new class. The dates for your diary are Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022. Information about how to book your slot will be sent out next week.



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### Harvest Food Donations

Thank you all so much for the very generous donations you all made over the last fortnight. The Mini Vinnie group of children will sort out all of your gifts and donations will be made locally to the West End Food Bank and nationally to the CAFOD depot for them to distribute as needed.

### Dogs

Please do not bring any dog onto the school premises. The only exception to this is if you use a guide dog.

### School photographer

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, the school photographer will be in school taking individual and sibling photographs.

### Workshops for Year 5

Clennel Education Solutions have started to lead some workshops with our Year 5 pupils. This is centred on empowering our children to speak up about the impact of their actions, friendships, getting along and looking at positive ways to express themselves. It has been a great first week and I hope that the pupils will benefit from these sessions, Alan Robson is an excellent facilitator.

### Heights and weights check

The NHS come into school and carry out height and weight checks with the Reception and the Year 6 pupils. This will take place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

### Advance notice of First Holy Communion Dates

Mr Bonnar 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Mr Peacock 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### Lunchboxes

A number of children are bringing sweets, chocolate bars and fizzy drinks in their packed lunchboxes. I would ask that you respect the need for the school to set a positive healthy eating message. Whilst of course I am sure everyone likes chocolate; please could you keep that for home and not in their daily lunchbox. If your child has issues around eating and that is all they can eat then please speak to us and we would happily work with yourselves and the school nurse.

### Advance notice of Advent liturgies – dates for your diary

The Advent liturgies will vary in format but will all be made up of a combination readings, music, singing and reflective prayer. We would like to invite all of our children's parents to attend their child's class liturgy, if you are working and unable to attend then we would be happy to see grandparents in your place, all we ask is that due to space every family choose to send no more than 4 adults to see your child. If every family adheres to that rule there will be a maximum of 120 adults watching every liturgy.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Rainbows nativity	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	10:00am
Sunshine nativity	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	10:00am
Reception Mrs Duffy nativity	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	10:00am
Reception Miss Rice nativity	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	2:00pm
Year One – Mrs O'Neil	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	10:00am
Year One Miss Young	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	2:00pm
Year Two Mrs Langford	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	10:00am
Year Two Miss Dean	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	2:00pm
Year Three Mrs Meldrum/Mrs McLean	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	10:00am
Year Three Miss Cherry	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	2:00pm
Year Four Mr Peacock	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	10:00am
Year Four Mr Bonnar	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	2:00pm
Year Five Miss Dolphin	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	10:00am
Year Five Miss McMaster	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	2:00pm
Year Six Mr Allen	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2022	10:00am
Year Six Mrs Spencer / Mrs Black	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2022	2:00pm

Obviously times and dates may change and vary nearer the time, but we are hopeful that barring snowstorms or other contingencies we are as yet unaware of, that these dates will be secure.

**Golden Book Assembly**

It is a delight to take part in assembly on a Friday morning celebrating all of our pupils' fantastic accomplishments. Please keep sending in all their certificates, medals and trophies.

I hope you all have a safe and restful weekend. We look forward to seeing you all again next week. We continue to keep all of our families in our thoughts and prayers.

Best wishes,

*A D Thorpe*

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Headteacher