



11th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start with a huge thank you – to all of our parents and carers who have expressed their wholehearted support of our school, the staff and the whole community over the last fortnight. I have been overwhelmed by the positive and encouraging comments so many of you have fed back to staff, it is truly affirming that you all know how hard staff work for the best of your children. All the staff, governors and I really appreciate the support you have so sincerely given to school. I really hope that we can all work together to continue this positive way of working together for the best of your children.

Food bank collections – Family Fast Day 11th March 2022

Once again, a huge thank you for your amazing generosity – the children were astonished and so proud of themselves as we set out all the donations in the school hall today for them all to see. A number of our families have also said they are bringing more in next week. We will confirm the collection by the foodbank at the end of next week – so please keep the donations coming!

<https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>

Weekly Mass

On Wednesday 9th March, our Year 5 children represented school at our weekly parish mass. Despite the fact that they were all so warm, sitting by the radiators, they took part and made us very proud. Next week, our year 4 children will continue this weekly attendance. It is wonderful, once again to be part of our parish community.

Year 3/4 football

The boys football team represented school so well last night. Staff and parents who supported our children all commented on how brilliant the children were – they supported and encouraged each other and paid great heed to the fair play of the support. Well done to everyone concerned.

COVID Update

Please can we ask that with the ongoing changing of the rules, if your child tests positive for COVID you do not send them into school. I would ask that parents ensure, that children test negative before they return or stay at home for 5 days whichever is the sooner. In line with new government guidance, we are not insisting on a negative test, however Newcastle Local Authority and Public Health England are

supporting schools in asking parents to help us to minimise the spread of COVID, by asking for a negative test.

Attendance Officer

We have a new Attendance officer working with school, called Grant Short. He is here to support both yourselves and school with improving pupil's attendance, if concerns arise he may well contact you via phone or visit you at your house to help support you in encouraging your children to attend school. We need our children school on a daily basis to be able to learn.

Drop off late and collect early

This week it has been particularly noticeable that a number of our children are being dropped off late and/or collected early. If this is 10 minutes either side of the day that is 20minutes which equals 1hr 40mins of missed education every week. This is going to be monitored and the attendance officer may need to speak to you about reducing these incidents as it will have a detrimental effect on your child's education.

Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust

As you will all know, the diocese has encouraged all catholic schools to join together to form partnerships. <http://www.bishopbewickcet.org/> We are going to be joining Bishop Bewick on 1st April 2022. It is hoped that this joining together as a Catholic Community will bring benefits which our children will grow from. As we receive more information I will update you further.

Books

We have uploaded a new document to help support families when reading with their children at home. There is a new document called VIPERS questions:reading at home. https://www.stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk/web/reading_at_st_john_vianney_primary_school/559040

Medicine

If your child is prescribed a medication which requires four doses a day then please come to the office and complete a form for staff to administer the lunchtime dose. If it is only needed three times a day please could you given these at home. I appreciate your support with this.

As always, we continue to keep all of our families and school community in our thoughts and prayers.

Best wishes,

A D Thorpe

Mrs A. D. Thorpe
Head Teacher