



# St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

Hillhead Road  
West Denton  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE5 1DN

Mrs A D Thorpe  
Head Teacher

Telephone: 0191 2672233  
[office@stjohnvianneynewcastle.org](mailto:office@stjohnvianneynewcastle.org)  
[www.stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk](http://www.stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk)

25<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parents/carers,

### Whole School Platinum Jubilee Day

On **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May**, everyone is invited to come into school wearing red, white and blue, to take part in the school's very own Platinum Jubilee Day, to mark the Queen's 70-year reign. Some of you, who are my age, will be able to remember the street parties of the 1977 Silver Jubilee! Children on school dinners will be given an afternoon tea of sandwiches, pastries, cakes, crisps and biscuits, instead of a hot meal. If your child is on packed lunch then please feel free to send in a similar celebratory packed lunch. Weather permitting, we are going to organise our own whole school street party for all the children to enjoy, where every single child in school, regardless of them being on school dinners or not, will be given a celebratory Jubilee cake/biscuit to enjoy.

### Friday – Jubilee closure

Please note we are **OPEN on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022** but **CLOSED on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022**.

### Whole School Sports Day arrangements

We are planning to bring back sports day, to which parents can come and watch. We are starting small – so please be patient with us! It will all be weather dependent and if it is pouring with rain then it will be cancelled that day, pupils will then do sports day but on a different day which can be slotted in as and when. Your planned child's class slot will be as follows:

Class	Date and Time
Rainbows Nursery	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 10:00am
Sunshine Nursery	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 1:30pm
Both Reception classes combined	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June 1:30pm
Year 1 & Year 2 combined	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 10:00am
Year 3 & Year 4 combined	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 1:30pm
Year 5 & Year 6 combined	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June 10:00am

### SEMH Support

I am delighted to let you know that plans have been worked on over the last few months and we are now in a position to open up our very own Social Emotional and Mental Health support hub in school. This is a fabulous new resource, initially staffed in the afternoons by Mrs Sibbet. She will be working with small groups of children and individual children who school and/or parents have identified as benefitting from extra support. We are sure that this will become a fabulous new addition to the support package we offer in school.



### Counselling

We continue to benefit from Violetta from the Road Centre working in school every week. She works with children on an individual basis or group basis. I know that the children who she has supported this academic year have benefitted from her expertise.

### Attendance in school

As you will all know, schools have a duty to ensure that all of our pupils attend school as much as possible. If your child is not in school it is much more difficult for them to access their learning. Since Easter, we have returned to sending out the traffic light letters to parents for the first time since COVID. I know that balancing the needs of keeping your children healthy and well and attending school is often tricky for parents, but please be assured that we will always contact you if your child is not well whilst in school. If your child is absent, please always make sure you contact school and let us know the reason why, first thing in the morning.

**Grant Short**, the attendance support officer, will contact you if your child is regularly absent with no reason, or if your child attendance is causing us concern. Some parents have been issued with parental contracts to try and best support them to improve their child's attendance.

**Holidays** – I have had an ever-growing number of holiday request forms from families, and whilst I understand that a large number of these are from postponed holidays during COVID, it is concerning that so many families are asking for time off. Grant Short may contact you to offer some advice.

**Sickness** - If your child has been vomiting or diarrhoea then we ask that they are kept off for 48hours after the last symptom. This is really important to prevent the spread of the bugs around the class to all the other children, especially our more vulnerable children. Several parents have contacted school expressing concern about children coming into school the day after they have been sick, whilst attendance is hugely important we also ask you to be considerate of the other families in school.

**Attendance rewards** - Every week the class with the highest attendance in KS1 and KS2 receives the recognition of that in Golden Book Assembly and the whole class are given 5 mins extra playtime sometime in the following week as a reward.

### Adam Bushnell

It was a delight to have Adam in school working with all of our KS2 children. He has since written to school about how amazing our pupils are and how fantastic his two days were in school. It is brilliant for our pupil's behaviour and attitudes to learning to be recognised by such an internationally renowned author, so well done to everyone.

### Welcome back

I am delighted to let you know that Mrs O'Neil is returning to school following her period of maternity leave, it is amazing to see how life has flown by and she is now the proud mummy of two beautiful young children. She will be working in Year 3 alongside Mrs McLean and Miss Dean.

A big thank you to Mrs Meldrum who has been teaching in Year 3, she is now going to be working across various classes until the summer holidays. She will be working with groups of children providing bespoke teaching and learning support, which will provide an excellent boost to pupils.

### Photographer

On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June the school photographer will be in school, he will be taking individual pictures, sibling groups and the class groups for Nursery and Y6 leavers only. There is a survey monkey on the school website which will help us ensure that your child is taken in the correct group.

In the Autumn term, the photographer will come back into school and take pictures of every class group.

### Laudato Si

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Laudato-Si-encyclical>

This week is part of a Global focus on Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical Laudato Si' which remains a profound invitation to everyone on the planet to care for our common home. This Laudato Si' Week 2022, to be held May 22-29, will mark the seventh anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on creation care. The theme for this year's week is "Listening and Journeying Together" and the week will be guided by Pope Francis' words in Laudato Si': "Bringing the human family together to protect our common home" (LS 13).

### Trips

I have been asked about pupils taking trips in all the classes, and wherever possible every class will have been out on a trip. We are very cognisant of the cost of living crisis being experienced by most of our families and so we are reviewing the trips we plan and the impact on the cost for families. Wherever possible we are trying to keep the cost to a minimum.

### Holy Communion

Our second group of Year 4 children will be celebrating in church on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 10am. It has been a pleasure to see all of our Year 4 pupils take part in their sacramental preparation and celebrations.

### Golden Book Awards

Keep brig in in all of your certificates, medals and trophies which you have been awarded outside of school. Friday morning is a real pleasure as we congratulate all the skills and talents our pupils are being recognised for outside of school.

### House Points

It is a weekly pleasure to announce how many House Points each group has earned throughout the week. Children are trying so hard to earn them for everyone in their House Group will benefit. At the end of every half term Mr Bonnar rewards the winning house with a celebration film event in the hall. It is great to see how much pleasure they all take from each other winning points. The collective team effort from all of our pupils is wonderful.

### Advance notice of Year 6 Mandarin lessons

The Year 6 children are going to take part in a week's taster session as part of their transition into senior school. This is a unique and exciting opportunity for them to be exposed to and experience language learning in a new and innovative way.

### Open Door Policy

As always please do not hesitate to contact school if you need anything, staff are all here to help in any way possible.

Best wishes,

A D Thorpe

Mrs A D Thorpe  
Headteacher