[°]St. John Vianney Catholic Primary School



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8th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is amazing to think that we only have two more weeks before the half term holidays.

Dates for your diary

The following two dates have been agreed by governors as staff inset days, staff will be working in school but school will be closed to pupils on 10th December 2021 and 18th February 2022. Also, all schools have been instructed to close for a day in place of the national Jubilee Bank holiday which has been given during current school holidays, Governors have agreed that school will be closed to everyone on 17th June 2022.

| Attendance |
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| Class Group | Attendance figure for the week | Class Group | Attendance figure for the week |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Year 6 (Mrs Spencer) | 94.08% | Year 6 (Mr Peacock) | 91.67% |
| Year 5 (Miss Dolphin) | 95.78% | Year 5 (Miss MacMaster) | 92.26% |
| Year 4 (Mrs Rutherford) | 94.44% | Year 4 (Mr Bonnar) | 95.45% |
| Year 3 (Mrs Meldrum/Mrs McLean) | 96.55% | Year 3 (Miss Dean) | 97.73% |
| Year 2 (Miss Cherry) | 99.42% | Year 2 (Miss Prayle) | 95.98% |
| Year 1 (Mrs Langford) | 93.04% | Year 1 (Mrs Watanabe) | 91.16% |
| Reception (Mrs Duffy) | 88.26% | Reception (Mr Cowan) | 89.44% |
| Nursery Rainbow (Mrs Lake) | 82.42% | Nursery Sunshine (Mrs Lake) | 89.02% |

Black History Month

As part of the national campaign to help our children recognise and celebrate the contribution people from all walks of life and communities have made to our society, children in each year group are going to be focusing on a particular person from history. You may like to ask your child about this person over the coming weeks and encourage them to research and find out about them.

Year 1 - Marcus Rashford (National footballer and equalities campaigner)

- Year 2 Mary Seacole (A British-Jamaican nurse working in the Crimean War)
- Year 3 Diane Abbot (First British female politician of colour)
- Year 4 Harriet Tubman (Escaped slave and abolitionist)

Year 5 - Hidden Figures: African-American women who worked for Nasa (Katherine Johnson)

Year 6 - The American Civil Rights Movement: Martin Luther King (linked to class novel Holes)

Food bank contributions

A huge thank you to all of those who have sent items in already, we really do appreciate your generosity.

I hope you have a great weekend and as always, we keep all of our parish community in our school prayers.

One-way system to walk around school

Please can you make sure that you or any person collecting or dropping off your child enters school grounds through the pedestrian green gates and leaves via the car park large green gates. With so many children and adults it helps with the smooth flow of people on school grounds, we really appreciate your help and support with this.

Acceptable use policy

A paper copy as sent home with all children and we ask that you return it to school as soon as possible.

Outdoor and adventurous activities

Over the coming weeks and months, all pupils are going to have the opportunity to take part in some exciting new learning opportunities in our Forrest School area. Just look out for information about when your child's year group will get their turn. This is a fabulous opportunity and we are really excited about this new experience for all of our children.

Year 1 Art Gallery Trip

This week, Year 1 excelled themselves and took part in a trip to the Laing Art Gallery in Newcastle. They were amazing and a number of members of the public and staff at the gallery all commented on how fabulous they were. We are all so proud of them and the work they have produced in school since has been wonderful.

Mental Health Day

All pupils came into school today dressed in something yellow, it was a brilliant visual representation of everyone together. All pupils have learned, in an age appropriate way, something about how to look after their own mental health. This is extremely important and we want all of our pupils to talk to an adult if anything worries or concerns them.

Best wishes,

A D Thorpe

Mrs A. D. Thorpe Head teacher