



# 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**

4<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents,

### Christmas Dates for your Diary

As it is only three weeks until Christmas, I wanted to remind you of all the events coming up over the next few weeks.

### Christmas Performances

Year Group	Parent group to attend	Event	Time
Nursery Rainbow	Rainbow Parents	Nativity Celebration	10am Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December
Nursery Sunshine	Sunshine Parents	Nativity Celebration	10am Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December
Reception	Mrs Duffy Parents	Mini Nativity Play	10am Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December
Reception	Miss Rice Parents	Mini Nativity Play	2pm Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December
Year One	All Year One Parents	Christmas Liturgy	10am Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December
Year Two	All Year Two Parents	Christmas Liturgy	2pm Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December
Year Three	All Year Three Parents	Christmas Liturgy	10am Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December
Year Four	All Year Four Parents	Christingle Service	10am Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December
Year Five	All Year Five Parents	Carols by Candlelight	2pm Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December
Year Six	All Year Six Parents	Carols by Candlelight	2pm Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December

There will be 4 places per family for the Nursery and Reception Nativity celebrations. There will be 2 places per family for Y1 – Y6 events in the hall, please bear with us as we invite you back into school. I know you are all in for a wonderful treat. As always please make sure that any photos you take are for you and your family only, not to be shared on any form of social media. I really appreciate your support with this.



### Christmas Parties

Year Group	Dates
Nursery Rainbow	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
Nursery Sunshine	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
Reception	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
Year One	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
Year Two	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023
Year Three	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
Year Four	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
Year Five	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023
Year Six	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023

Pupils can come into school dressed in their party clothes or non-uniform own clothes and bring a small plate of party snacks to eat, in addition to their packed lunch or school dinner. School will provide drinks, haribo sweets and chocolate prizes!

### Choir trips out

Date	Event	Pupil groups	Parents attend or not
6 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Carols at the Cathedral	All Y5 pupils	No parents and families
7 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 1:30pm – 2:30pm	Carols in St John Vianney Church	Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 Choir members only	Yes parents and families
8 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Carols at John Lewis	Y5 and Y6 Choir members only	Yes parents and families
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Carols at Grainger Market	Y5 and Y6 Choir members only	Yes parents and families

### Travelling Crib

This started last week, every family will be sent a travelling crib set for you to enjoy at home and then return. They will make their way around school and all of our families should be able to enjoy time with them.

### Christmas Cards

Year 6 pupils are selling recycled Christmas Cards as part of their Faith in Action award, to raise money for the homeless charity in Newcastle City Centre. The money will be used to buy woolen socks, hats and gloves to distribute. Money can be paid through your school money online login.

### Christmas Tags

The School Council are, back with popular demand, selling Christmas tags to be put upon the school Christmas Tree. The pupils will use the funds raised to choose to buy something to enhance school, such as new equipment for the yard at breaktime. Money can be paid through your school money online login.

### Christmas Jumper / Dinner Day

On Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023, pupils are invited to wear Christmas jumper and/or non-uniform clothes to be able to join in the Christmas celebrations and eat Christmas Dinner together. The request system is now closed, so if you need to book and pay for a meal, please ring the school office.

## Other events in school

### PTFA Meeting

I have had some parents approach me and ask if they can reinvigorate the PTFA. I would love more parents to be involved in school life and put on events to support our pupils. As such there will be a meeting on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm, in school. I would like to invite all and any parents who would like to become involved, I look forward to meeting you then.

### Fire Safety talks

Year 4 classes are both going to have a workshop dedicated to teaching them about fire safety. How to keep safe, raise the alarm and what happens if false calls are made to the fire brigade on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

### NSPCC Workshops

The Year 5 and Year 6 pupils are accessing some really supportive workshops from the NSPCC. A support worker has come into school and been working with the classes encouraging pupils to stay safe and giving them a wide variety of ways to stay safe, both in and out of school.

### Author visits to school

Over the last fortnight, every class has had the pleasure of working with a variety of children's authors. They have all been amazing and it has been really inspiring for our children to get to quiz, real authors, about how they create their stories. The authors have also all run workshops encouraging our pupils to become authors in their own right.

### Children in Need

The Year 6 pupils, worked in every classroom, with all of the children encouraging them all to take part in some charitable fun. They also spoke to their peers about ways in which they can help support people who are more vulnerable than themselves. This work also contributed to their Faith in Action Award.

### Service of Remembrance

Our Y6 pupils led a wonderful and incredibly respectful memorial service in the school yard for all of the KS2 pupils. We were all so proud of all of their efforts and pride in what they accomplished.

### Reception Parents for Sept 2024

Please remember that the online application process closes for parents to apply for a place at St John Vianney Catholic Primary School, on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/apply-school-place/applying-reception-places>

The next few weeks are as always incredibly busy, and I know you will all be rushing around and trying to do too many things at once. School will continue to keep all of school and parish families in our prayers.

Kind regards,

*A D Thorpe*

Mrs A D Thorpe  
Head teacher