



# St. John Vianney Catholic Primary School



Mrs A D Thorpe  
Headteacher

Hillhead Road  
West Denton  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE5 1DN

Telephone: 0191 2672233

Fax: 0191 2679538

[admin@stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk)

[www.stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk](http://www.stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk)



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Dear parents/carers,

As we come to the end of what has been another challenging year, our Year 6 pupils have been amazingly resilient in the face of COVID-19. Little could we imagine when we closed our schools for the first time back in March 2020 that we would still be living with COVID-19 here and now in July 2021. I know that you can all be very proud of how your children have engaged with online learning and how well they have continued to adapt to the challenges presented to them. Our aim has always been to develop resilient and confident young people and send them out into the world by giving them the self-belief to fly as they move on with their educational journey.

I had always hoped that we would be able to invite parents into school in person to take part and bear witness to the amazing young people your children have become, but as ever COVID-19 is sent to try us all. So, although the national guidelines have changed today; due to the ever-rising numbers of positive COVID-19 cases in Newcastle and the number of pupils who have had to isolate during the last week of term, I have taken the difficult decision not to open up school to 120 parents this week. We are going to do our best to film the end of year celebration assembly and give a DVD to every member of Year 6. Whilst I know you will be disappointed, the safety of our pupils and staff alongside the imminent school holidays meant that taking this extra risk was not wise. Pupils will be given their end of year gifts in two stages, hoodies on Tuesday which can be worn for the remainder of the school week and end of year leaving St John Vianney teddies on Friday. Year 6 pupils will also be allowed to bring a school T-shirt in on Friday for signing.

It is still our aim to take pupils to Holy Island on Wednesday as a single bubble, as they will be outside for the whole day, with the exception of the bus journey.

We continue to wish all of our Year 6 pupils a very successful time as they move into Year 7 and I am confident that whichever senior school your child is going to there are many fabulous staff ready to warmly welcome your child into their school. Parents will be welcome to watch Year 6 pupils outside in the school carpark being clapped out of school on Friday afternoon at 3:30pm.

Kind regards,

*A D Thorpe*

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