



St John Vianney
Catholic Primary School

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News Letter: Summer 2

22nd July, 2022

Dear Parents,

At the end of another difficult year, can I begin with a Thank You - our aim for this year. The Academic Year began with such high hopes of a return to normal, only to see infections rise again in a 'delta-wave' followed almost immediately by even worse absence from staff and children catching the new omicron variant. However, slowly, you might say gingerly, we have edged our way back to normalcy and we have been able to welcome parents, carers and parishioners back into school for Liturgical Prayer & Worship. I have also met all the parents of the children coming into reception in 'offer meetings' and have caught up with most parents of children in Year 1. I will try to see others we missed in school and early years at the beginning of the next academic year. I am very grateful that school is more like it used to be, with family at school gathering and children working with friends across school, sports afternoons and finals as well as picnic and 'Goodbye Prayer'. We look forward to our programme of out of school clubs coming back on stream after the Summer break and let us all hope we have a year when we remember the pandemic rather than live through it!

Class Teachers

We returned to our tradition of 'Transition Day' at the beginning of the week, with all children moving up for a taster in their September classrooms. We have quite a few changes of staff this year, with Miss Carter moving to a new school to continue her career, Mr. Clay stepping up into leadership in a new school and Miss Sagewood changing career as she becomes an Educational Psychologist! You might spot their replacements below, but you no doubt will meet them in the new year. Here are the class teachers for next year:

Foundation Stage: Mrs. Hutchinson
Reception: Mrs. Henry
Year 1: Mrs. Dixon
Year 2: Miss Wood
Year 3: Miss McMorris
Year 4: Miss Joynes
Year 5: Mr. Watson
Year 6: Mrs. Marshall

Miss Crowe will continue to provide Music across the whole school and Mr. Boagey & Mrs. Rowsthorn will teach across school supporting learning. And, during the year we will be welcoming back from Maternity, Mrs. Lupton and Mrs Wright, while Mrs Brookbanks will be taking hers.



Housekeeping

Please note that Dinner charges will be £2.13 (£10.65 per week) from September 2022. Remember children in Reception Class and Years 1 and 2 continue to benefit from funded school meals. However, if children in these classes would be eligible for a free meal, please apply since children then also benefit from pupil premium funding in school. Please can all parents of children (including those in Reception, Years 1 and 2) confirm meal arrangements when we return in September.

The Influenza Childhood Immunisation Programme is visiting our school on the morning of 17th October. More information about giving parental consent will follow from the NHS.

Please be careful when buying 'uniform'. During this year we have noticed that children have worn a range of 'near-miss' clothes but we are returning to FULL & PROPER uniform in September, which is grey for trousers, skirts, pinafores etc. blue gingham for summer dresses; white or jade for polo-shirts and navy for jumpers, sweatshirts, cardigans and coats. Be mindful that these clothes wear-out quickly, so try to buy the least expensive. We offer opportunity for uniform exchange as parents offer items their children have hardly worn but which are now too small for other parents to take and use. We will also be returning to indoor shoes/slippers in September across the school.

PE kits too will return to uniform, with children requiring navy shorts and a PE top in their colour (one of the four chosen in school). Please note, from September this needs to be a simple cotton T-shirt in the plain colour and Football and other Team tops such as polo-shirts are not a suitable substitute. (For indoor, bear-foot is preferred for gymnastics and dance, although plimsols are allowed.) Remember children have an outdoor lesson each week, so require outdoor wear such as a track-suit or similar and training shoes.

Can I thank parents for ensuring no jewellery (including piercings of any kind) and no make-up, including nail-varnish is worn and that hair-styles are simple and not extreme, which sets the tone for our whole setting. This allows for a gentle and collaborative relationship to develop between staff and children without the first exchange of words being negative and about uniform rather than learning. It is our focus on learning that over time makes the biggest difference.

Children's Photographs

We have arranged photographs at the beginning of the year as normal: the group photographs for Sea Room (N2); Reception Class; and, Year 6 will be taken on Wednesday 14th September. We are yet to receive confirmation of the individual photograph day.

Term Dates 2020-21

Please see the school calendar for the 2022 - 2023 academic year, in the School day, term dates and events section of our website.

Arrival at & Departure from Setting

We have learnt a lot about arriving and leaving school during the pandemic. Children are very appreciative of the space and safety afforded them by parents not entering 'their' playground. They like to have the time to look about and spot their parents rather than search through a crowded yard. So, nothing will be changing in September, the school doors open at 8.45 so



children can have their 'breakfast' and wash their hands before liturgical prayers at 9.00 am. Again, at the end of the school day, children offer their night prayer before washing hands and leaving school by 3.15 pm.

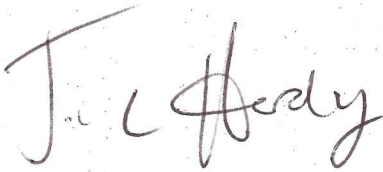
Cost of living crisis

As the inflation rate continues to climb and prices, not just those of fuel, escalate, our involvement in the National Breakfast Programme is one way that we can help families save a little money. We provide a breakfast of either a portion of cereal or bagel to every child in our school (Reception to Year 6) every single school day. So, please make use of this scheme.

As we say good-bye to Year 6, I would like to wish them every success in their continuing learning journey at secondary school. I want to congratulate each of them for taking in their stride, just about, the return of SATs in May. They were able to share their production with family and celebrate their leaving together today.

As we begin to turn our thoughts to the next academic year, I look forward to learning once again being at the heart of all we do. Please remember to keep the school and our children in your prayers and enjoy this Summer seeing family and friends, especially those you have not been able to see for a long time.

Yours sincerely,



John L. Hardy (Head Teacher)