

ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs A Harrop MEd NPQH
Orchard Road
Altrincham
WA15 8EY

Email: admin@stvincents.trafford.sch.uk
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25 June 2021

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

COVID SAFETY

You will be aware that the local and national Covid infection rate is rising. We have seen the effects of this in school with more positive cases and we have needed to isolate five classes over the past two weeks.

In partnership with you, we are doing all we can to prevent any further spread of Covid in our community. We are ensuring we maintain our stringent safety measures and ask that we work together to ensure that the government guidelines are adhered to outside of school.

Thank you for supporting safety measures and directions from public health. It is in working together that we can move through the pandemic and keep everyone as safe as possible.

It is very important that children do not come to school with any of the symptoms below. If your child has any of these symptoms, they must have a PCR test and remain at home.

The main symptoms are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss of taste and smell

We also ask you to be vigilant and symptom aware around some of the atypical Covid symptoms associated with the new Delta variant such as:

- Headache
- Runny nose and sore throat
- Nausea, sickness and diarrhoea
- Extreme fatigue

If your child returns a positive PCR result, **you must report this to School as soon as possible**. Please report any positive results into the school helpdesk in the usual way (including results obtained over the weekend) by using the dedicated email address helpdesk@stvincents.trafford.sch.uk including your child's name, class/year group and a contact number. We will then contact you to discuss the first day of symptoms and contacts during this time.



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SELF-ISOLATION

If your child has been asked to self-isolate due to being a contact of a child or member of staff who has tested positive, please can we ask that they continue to adhere to the following advice for the full time period provided by Public Health:

- self-isolate immediately
- do not leave your home for any reason
- do not have visitors in your home, including friends and family – except for essential care

These measures must be taken regardless of whether your child receives a negative PCR or lateral flow test result during this time.

Thank you again for your cooperation to ensure we do everything we can to keep our community safe.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

This week, we held Reconciliation services for two Year 3 classes with the third being held next week. It was lovely to be back in St Vincent's church. Thank you to Fr Jonathan, Fr Tom and Fr Robert for a lovely prayerful service and we look forward to the third reconciliation next week.

MASS

The Feast of St Peter and Paul Mass will be live streamed from Holy Angels church on Tuesday 29 June at 9.30am. All children will be joining this Mass virtually. Please use this link to join us in prayer: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDdy9NWzf1yPLWrNqwHxALg>

CYBER SPRINTERS

Introducing **Cyber Sprinters**, a new online game to help primary schools, clubs and youth groups teach children about cyber security from an early age. It is a free interactive game, developed by the National Cyber Security Centre – a part of GCHQ, aimed at 7 to 11-year-olds, and is available [here](#).

PASTORAL DROP IN

The next drop in for parents is on Tuesday 29 June 1:30pm-3:30pm. You can sign up for a call with Mrs Gee by visiting <https://stvincentscatholicprimary.schoolcloud.co.uk> to book an appointment.

EXCITING NEWS- RUNNING TRACK

We are delighted to share that we will be installing a daily mile running track on our field over the summer break. This will be a wonderful resource that the children will use during their PE lessons, lunch and break times and



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clubs. The Nursery and Sunshine club will also be able to benefit from this fantastic addition to our school. There are many benefits to exercise and the benefits of the running track are shown below:

**THE DAILY MILE WORKS...
FOR CHILDREN**

It improves physical, social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing.

It is fun, friendly and social - this is vital and ensures sustainability.

All children are included and all children succeed.

Children with SEN or ASN benefit greatly from taking part in The Daily Mile.

It's not a race or a competition - this is not cross-country or sport.

It is a mixed activity across the Primary age range - nursery to 11.

Children enjoy a sense of freedom outside in the fresh air.

Different age groups and classes can do The Daily Mile together.

It reduces anxiety and stress.

It helps to build relationships.

Children know they are healthier and are proud of their fitness.

**THE DAILY MILE WORKS...
FOR TEACHERS &
HEADTEACHERS**

It's health and wellbeing, not PE.

It takes only 15 minutes from leaving the classroom until returning.

The class runs every day, ideally at a time when the teacher decides it is suitable.

There is no equipment, training or staff development needed.

Children run in their school clothes - no time is lost waiting while they change into kit.

Focus, concentration and behaviour are improved.

Children are fitter so can access and succeed at PE more readily.

Children return to class refreshed, energised and settle quickly to work.

It is sustainable over the entire session and for years to come.

Aspects of the curriculum can be incorporated in simple and interesting ways.

**THE DAILY MILE WORKS...
FOR PARENTS**

It meets the needs of childhood - freedom, fun, fresh air and friends.

It takes place in a safe and secure environment.

Children are noticeably fitter - usually only 4 weeks after starting to run regularly.

It helps to reduce obesity and improves general health outcomes.

No need to transport children to clubs or events and it is free.

It prevents children being too sedentary and encourages physical activity out of school.

Children develop greater resilience and confidence.

Enhanced attainment is linked to increased physical activity.

It helps to make children feel happy.

Many children will sleep and eat better.

PTA BIG SUMMER RAFFLE

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the class collections and/or donated to prizes for the PTA Big Summer Raffle. We raised £4000 which has been used to purchase vouchers from local businesses as prizes for our raffle and we received a lot of positive feedback from businesses who really appreciated us supporting the local community. We have 54 amazing prizes to be won and the full list is attached to the newsletter.

The raffle is now open; tickets are £1 each and can be purchased online through RAFFALL using this link:

<https://raffall.com/244584/enter-raffle-to-win-local-prizes-hosted-by-st-vincents-pta>

You will need to register on the site and answer a simple question (hint. apple!) in order to be eligible to enter the draw for a prize. The raffle will close at 8pm on Saturday 17th July and winners will be automatically drawn by the RAFFALL system and allocated prizes in the order they are listed; winners will be notified by email and the PTA will contact them to arrange collection.



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Please share the link with your local family and friends so we can raise as much money as possible for our school but be mindful that most of the prizes are vouchers, which must be redeemed locally.

OUTSTANDING LEADERS AND BEST PRACTICE NETWORK

We are delighted to have achieved the Silver CPD badge from the Best Practice Network and Outstanding Leaders Partnership.

Over the past three years, we have supported staff to achieve many of the professional qualifications offered by the network. These include NPQEL, NPQH and the NPQML. We are delighted that this investment in our staff has been recognised.



CYCLING

It has been good to see an increase in children cycling to school. Please consider taking advantage of the summer months by cycling to school. The cycle storage area is located at the Balmoral Road entrance area.

WALKING TO SCHOOL

If you are unable to cycle to school why not walk or park and stride? Walking is a good way to ensure children are getting exercise whilst learning about their local environment. It also helps to reduce congestion near school.

ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS WEEK

Attendance Percentages	
Highest infant class attendance	Y2 Mr Nicholls' class 100%, Y2 Mrs Burke/Mrs Robinson's class 100%
Highest junior class attendance	Y4 Miss Jamieson's class 99.3%
Overall school attendance	97.4%

*Please note that disability related absence is not taken into account when calculating best attendance

We work in partnership with parents. Mrs Tiernan (deputy head teacher based in the infant department), and Mrs Sutton (deputy head teacher based in the junior department), and I are very happy to answer any questions you may have.

Kind regards,

Mrs Harrop

