

ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Email: admin@stvincents.trafford.sch.uk
Web: stvincents.trafford.sch.uk
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15 October 2021

Dear Parents,

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

COVID SAFETY

You will know that Trafford's number of Covid infections is very high. As a result of this, Trafford Public Health have needed to ask educational settings to put in place enhanced Covid safety measures. The Public Health letter sent to parents last week supersedes previous advice. In line with the Trafford infection rate and local schools, we are seeing increased numbers of Covid cases in school. We ask parents to support us in ensuring children are tested if they have symptoms. We hope that those with Covid recover well and are back in school soon.

We continue to be in a fast moving situation where information and guidance can change with little notice. Thank you for your support in following the guidance. This is where we see our St Vincent community at it's best by all playing our part in the recovery of the pandemic.

FACE COVERINGS

All staff (unless exempt) must wear face coverings in all indoor communal areas. (Corridors, Library, staffrooms). Face coverings in classrooms are not essential, but we respect staff who want to wear one. Pupils are not asked to wear face coverings. Parents are asked to wear face coverings whilst on site.

VENTILATION

Wherever possible all windows and doors are to be open.

LATERAL FLOW DEVICE TESTING

Staff continue to carry out lateral flow tests twice a week.

PUPIL HAND AND RESPIRATORY HYGIENE

Personal hand sanitiser is recommended along with tissues for sneezing/coughing.



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ENHANCED CLEANING

We will continue with enhanced cleaning of regularly touched surfaces.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Extra-curricular activities can continue. We are very keen to support our extra-curricular provision and the associated wellbeing benefits it gives to our pupils.

NEW HOUSEHOLD CONTACT GUIDANCE (STAFF AND STUDENTS)

Trafford have now revised the guidance for those students who live in a household with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, and have issued the following advice:

LFD TESTING FOR HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

Since August, adults who are double vaccinated and children do not need to self-isolate if they live with someone who has Covid.

We are asking all students and staff members **who live with someone who has Covid** to do daily lateral flow tests (LFD test) before coming into school – unless exempt (see exemptions below). Pupils should start this testing from the day their household member either became **unwell with Covid or tested positive** if they did not have symptoms and continue this for 10 days.

- Please remember;
- if your child tests negative, they can continue attending school.
- if your child has a positive LFD result, they must start isolating, have a PCR test and inform school.
- if they develop Covid symptoms, they should book a PCR test. It is important that people with Covid symptoms do not rely on a negative LFD test and they should have a PCR test. If your child develops symptoms of Covid they must not come to school and should remain at home.

Exemptions to household testing

The groups exempt from this advice are:

- Children 5 and under
- Children in Key Stage 1
- SEND schools



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- 12–18-year-olds who have had at least one dose of the vaccine more than 14 days ago
- Any child, aged between 5 – 16, who has tested positive for COVID-19 via a PCR test within the past 90 days (unless **new** symptoms develop).

POSITIVE CASES IN SCHOOL

If your child is a contact of a case in school, please book them in to take a PCR test as soon as possible (unless they have had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days). Children aged 4 and under who are identified as a contact will not be advised to take a PCR test unless the positive case was someone in their own household.

If your child develops symptoms of Covid, they must not come to school and should remain at home. They must get a PCR test as soon as possible and isolate until the result is available. People who get a positive PCR test must continue to isolate as usual.

HARVEST FOOD DONATIONS

Thank you for all of the donations sent in this week. We have been overwhelmed with the generosity of parents. The donations were dropped off to South Trafford Foodbank and Cornerstone Day Centre for the homeless this afternoon. Thanks also to the parents who delivered the donations off today.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME YEAR 3

There will be an information PowerPoint for parents of children taking part in the Sacramental Programme after half term.

Thursday 18 November	Parent's information PowerPoint	Remote
Sunday 28 November	Enrolment Mass	10am St. Vincent's Church
Sunday 28 November	Enrolment Mass	10.30am Holy Angels Church
Thursday 20 January	Parent's Reconciliation Meeting	6.30pm Junior Hall TBC
Thursday 27 January	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mrs McDuff's class	6.30pm St. Vincent's Church



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Thursday 3 February	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mrs Jennings/Mrs Needham's class	6.30pm St. Vincent's Church
Thursday 24 February	Sacrament of Reconciliation Miss Slater's class	6.30pm St. Vincent's Church
Thursday 3 March	Sacrament of Reconciliation	6.30pm Holy Angels Church
Thursday 10 March	Parent's First Holy Communion Meeting	6.30pm Junior Hall TBC
Saturday 7 May	First Holy Communion Mrs McDuff's class	10am St Vincent's Church
Saturday 14 May	First Holy Communion Mrs Jennings/Mrs Needham's class	10am St Vincent's church
Saturday 21 May	First Holy Communion Miss Slater's class	10am St Vincent's Church
Sunday 15 May	First Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Angels Church
Thursday 23 June	Holy Communion Celebration Mass	9.15am Junior Hall

SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD - WEAR RED DAY - THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER 2021

We will be supporting Show Racism the Red Card wear red day. This day will be complementing all of the work we are doing on promoting respect and kindness. The children will learn more about this important matter on this day. Please show your support by sending the children to school wearing red on Friday.

We will be using the resources from show racism the red card and wanted to share a moving paragraph from their website. We share their views.

"2020 is behind us and we are a different people in this new year. We are stronger than ever before because we have come together in our common purpose. The advancement of the anti-racism movement. At its core is education. From the worst comes our best. The brutal world altering events of last summer pushed us to the front of the agenda and people started to speak meaningfully. These



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cannot become forgotten conversations. Without momentum there is no progression. Without learning the advantage is lost. Lives should not be ruined by racism. Join us this Wear Red Day to add your support to the cause and your voice to the choir."

AUTUMN TERM VIRTUAL PARENTS EVENING - ONLINE APPOINTMENT BOOKING

We would like to invite you to attend our Parents' Evening on **Thursday 4 November 3:45pm – 7pm**. It will be an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and find out how they have settled into school over the first half term. You will also be able to find out how your child is accessing the curriculum and how we will work together in partnership to help your child reach their targets.

The school introduced an online appointment booking system last year which allowed parents to choose their own appointment times to hold a video call with their child's class teacher/s which received positive feedback. This specialised management tool allowed us to maintain valuable contact between our parents and class teachers while following local and government guidelines.

Appointments can be made from **Monday 18 October** and will close on **Tuesday 2 November**. Should you wish to make any changes after this date please contact the school office.

Please visit <https://stvincentscatholicprimary.schoolcloud.co.uk> to book your appointments. You will need the following information:

- Parent's name
- Parent's email
- Child's name
- Child's DOB

The above details should correspond to the details we have on record in order for you to gain access, please contact admin@stvincents.trafford.sch.uk if you have any questions.

Please find a link to useful information about how to access below:

<https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>

Please also see the parent guide attached.

UNITED NATIONS DAY

This year there will be a change to how we have traditionally celebrated United Nations Day. We have been working on a plan which reflects the work of the United Nations assembly and focuses on



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their key objectives. This year, the theme for 2021 is 'Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world'. The day will start with 'A Green School Assembly' led by subject leads Mrs Luckham, Miss Hollins, Mrs Gerrard and Miss Jamieson. Then class teachers will discuss the work of the United Nations with their classes. Year groups will then explore the following themes:

Reception	Developing children's understanding of nature, including making a bug stadium
Year 1	Introduction to Sustainability, including making a wind turbine
Year 2	Developing children's understanding of food, recognising various foods which are beneficial for themselves as well as the planet
	Travel - developing children's understanding of transport
All KS1	How to be eco-friendly at home and how it may help the environment
	Green Schools - developing children's understanding of how to try and make our school greener
Y3	Introduction to Sustainability, including climate change
Y4	Food Production
Y5	Impact of Travel
Y6	Impact of Waste
All KS2	Impact of water on the environment, and how we can save water
	Nature - developing children's understanding and appreciation of nature
	During the afternoon, each phase will share their work with other children so we can inform each other of these issues.

OPEN MORNING

We are pleased to share that we are now able to invite all prospective parents to visit us to meet our wonderful children and to see the school in action. This will take place on Wednesday 10 November and we be holding small group tours throughout the day. Please see the link below for further information or call or email the school to book a slot, <http://www.stvincents.trafford.sch.uk/page/admissions/6191>



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FLU VACCINATIONS THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER

A reminder that Intrahealth will be in school on Thursday 21 October to administer flu vaccinations to all those children who have been given consent.

BOOK FAIR



*** Help to fill our school with free books when you buy from the book fair ***

The Scholastic Book Fair will take place in school from **Monday to Wednesday** next week. It will be located in the Year 4 cabin (opposite to Mrs Needham/Mrs Jennings Y3 classroom) from **8:30am to 9:30am** and again from **3pm to 4:15pm**.

Every book sold at the fair helps to fill our school library and classrooms with lovely new books for the children. There are over 200 books to choose from for all ages and at great prices (see attached flyer). You can pay easily and securely for books when you attend the fair by using the online payment link at: www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay and simply selecting our school from the drop down menu.

If you are unable to visit the Book Fair, you can pay for any books featured on the attached flyer from home using the online parent pay system on the scholastic website. Books will then be delivered to school for collection. Please visit: www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents

Pre-paid gift vouchers are also available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25 for you to purchase beforehand for your child to use at the fair from: www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers

We look forward to seeing you there.



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YOUR PTA NEEDS YOU

PTA AGM

Please do attend our PTA AGM on Wednesday 20 October at 7:30pm, zoom details will follow next week. We will be deciding what events to organise this year.

PTA Chair

The PTA Chair is a vital coordination role that allows the PTA to run smoothly and successfully. Without a chair/co-chairs the number of events that can be organised will be significantly reduced. If you feel this is a role you could take on within a team of supportive team members, please get in touch at stvincentspta@gmail.com.

Class PTA members

Thank you to everyone that has contacted us regarding being your child's class member of the PTA committee, there are still classes without representation. We really do need your support for the PTA so please consider putting yourself forward. More than one person can share this role too. Being a part of the PTA is a lovely opportunity to meet other parents and help to plan and organise events for your children. More than one person could share the role. Please contact the PTA on stvincentspta@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday	14 October	KS1 Assembly: Led by Y2 Mrs Burke/Mrs Leather's Class	Remote
Monday	18 October	Book Fair arrives	Y4 cabin
Thursday	21 October	Show Racism the Red Card's Wear Red Day	In class
Thursday	21 October	KS2 Class Assembly: Y5 Mrs Luckham's Class	Remote
Friday	22 October	United Nations Day	In class
Friday	22 October	School closes for Half Term	



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ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS WEEK

Each week we report attendance. Please note we do not authorise holidays in term time.

Attendance figures for previous week:

Attendance Percentages	
Highest infant class attendance	Y1 Miss Hutton's class 99.65%
Highest junior class attendance	Y4 Miss Campbell's class 100%
Overall school attendance	95.7%

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

We aim to be a listening school and offer an open door to parents. Mrs Farrell (deputy head teacher based in the junior department), Mrs Tiernan (deputy head teacher based in the infant department), and I are very happy to answer any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harrop

Headteacher

