

ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Friday 19 June 2020

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

WELCOMING RECEPTION, YEAR 1 AND YEAR 6

This week has been a very special week. We have been delighted to welcome our Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children back to school. It has also been wonderful to see the high take up of places for these year groups and have the school feel busy again. It was wonderful to see their smiling faces again. The children have grown so much and we have been admiring some marvellous haircuts!

Although we have needed to make some changes, we have tried to keep school as normal as possible. The children have coped well with the additional hygiene and social distancing rules. They are now used to the new table layout and know to keep within their bubble group. We are so proud of the children for the way that they have adapted to the changes in school and we have taken great care to ensure the children have been at ease and comfortable with the reintegration to school life.

We are pleased that our meticulous planning has paid off and that our systems have run smoothly throughout the week. I would like to thank the children, parents and staff for working in partnership with us to make this week such a success.

COVID 19 PROTOCOL FOR POSSIBLE OR CONFIRMED CORONAVIRUS

To date we have not had any child or staff member test positive for Covid-19. With increased numbers of children and staff on site, I wanted to share our protocol for possible or confirmed cases. The protocol is attached for you to read through the guidance. Please also note that the protocol is current but is subject to change in line with new guidance.

CURRENT SCHOOL NUMBERS AND CAPACITY

We now have over 200 children back in school. So that we can safely accommodate the bubbles of 15 children, all of our classrooms plus both halls are being used. In order to teach the bubbles for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, we have needed to utilise teachers and teaching assistants.

For key worker and vulnerable children, the teachers from Years 2-5 have been providing care for the key worker provision as well as setting learning tasks for their class. All staff are working incredibly hard and show an outstanding commitment to ensuring we offer the best learning experiences for our children.

YEARS 2, 3, 4 AND 5



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We were extremely disappointed to hear the government announce that schools would not be fully open until at least September 2020. With this recent announcement, we are saddened that we will not be able to welcome all children back. However, we recognise that the focus must continue to be on 2 metre social distancing and bubbles of no more than 15 in order for us to be able to progress to the ultimate stage of welcoming all of the children back.

I do appreciate that many children still at home would dearly love to be back in school. Although we are unable to bring the children back to school, we have planned to enhance our home learning provision so that the children can have more contact with their class teacher.

Following a trial, we will be introducing Google Meet sessions. The staff are being trained next week and we will look to introduce this soon after. Google Meet will be developed throughout the remainder of this term and further information will follow via class teachers.

CLASS CONTACT

Over the next two weeks, each teacher will be make a phone call to every family in their class. The purpose of the call will be to discuss wellbeing and how each child is getting on with home learning. The teacher will also be able to speak with your child. Please supervise your child during this conversation.

TRANSITION

This half term each class will carry out work on transition. Later on in the half term, we will arrange for the teacher to meet their new class either physically or virtually depending on the year group.

SUPPORT

We recognise that the Covid situation presents many difficulties for families. If you need any help, please contact the helpdesk helpdesk@stvincents.trafford.sch.uk. Our pastoral support team can provide a wealth of knowledge and can support you. Please email the helpdesk if you would like our pastoral team to get in touch.

You will find lots of other support information listed on our website under the Covid-19 tab. <http://www.stvincents.trafford.sch.uk/page/covid-19-information-and-support/75478>

THANK YOU

We have been inundated with so many lovely emails and comments at the gates this week. We are grateful for all of your support and positive comments. It means a lot to the staff to know that their efforts are appreciated. I am thankful to parents for your support, understanding and flexibility at this time.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harrop
Headteacher

