

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
Tel: 0161 911 8040
Twitter: @StVincentsPr



24 July 2020

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe we have come to the end of another academic year. This year has been a year like no other. There are very many people to thank for enabling us to respond to this pandemic in the safest way possible.

END OF YEAR LETTER FROM MRS DONNACHIE, CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Earlier this week you will have received the end of year letter from Mrs Donnachie, Chair of the Board of Governors. The letter refers to our journey this year and the many achievements along the way. Please do take the time to read it.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

I would like to thank all of the governors for their continued support in ensuring St Vincent's school, nursery and sunshine club remain the best they can be. I am grateful for their outstanding commitment and dedication to St Vincent's.

In her letter, Mrs Donnachie referred to the sudden passing of one of our governors Mr Tsiantar. Mr Tsiantar was a valued governor at St Vincent's for more than 20 years and he will be deeply missed. Our prayers and thoughts are with his family at this most difficult time.

STAFF

I have said many times that we are a wonderful team at St Vincent's. During lockdown and the recovery of Covid-19, the staff have pulled together to work through the many challenges we have faced. The teachers, teaching assistants, office staff and site staff are fully committed to the school; this is what makes us such a special community. I would like to thank all staff again for their unwavering dedication to the school.

PARENTS

Thank you to you the parents who have worked so hard with your children on Google Classrooms. It has been wonderful to work in partnership with you to ensure the children receive the best possible educational provision during this time. We could not have achieved what we have without your support.

PTA

Thank you to everyone who has helped arrange our PTA events and for those of you who attended events. The PTA have worked incredibly hard to raise money to fund school projects and special treats for the children and I am grateful for you in supporting these events. Moving forward, our PTA will become very important in rebuilding



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our sense of community. We will continue to hold a PTA AGM in the autumn term so please look out for the meeting arrangements in the new school year.

CHILDREN

Most of all, I am proud of our children who have shown resilience and maturity throughout the pandemic. It has been wonderful to see the children becoming more independent in their learning. We have enjoyed welcoming the children back this week for transition and we are looking forward to getting back to some level of normality in September.

I am sure that we are all hoping that September will see a fresh beginning following this unprecedented year of lockdown and quarantine. September will see us return to full-time education for all year groups. We will continue to have our control measures in place, with year groups having to be separated, and movement around the school carefully choreographed to keep pupils and staff as safe as possible. It is incredible that we have not had any reported incidences of coronavirus amongst the children or staff during this time. Thank you for adhering to government guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. Our revised risk assessment is on the website under key information - Covid-19.

As mentioned on the staffing letter, we will be saying goodbye to Mr Sands, Miss Barton and Mrs Dickerson. Whilst it is always difficult to see members of our community move on, we thank them for all they have contributed to St Vincent's, and we wish them all well in their future schools.

We finish today for the summer break. Year 1 to year 6 return to school on Thursday 3 September and Reception children start school on Friday 4 September. Please refer to the information shared on 17 July detailing September arrangements and exact start and end times for your child.

I hope you have an enjoyable and safe summer and I look forward to seeing you in the new term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harrop

Headteacher

