



St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing half term holiday, especially the glorious sunshine!

We have a busy term planned and we thank all families who have kept to government guidance and not made any travel arrangements that require any absence from school during term time. After numerous lockdowns and restricted opening for schools, it is essential that every pupil has the opportunity to maximise their attendance at school. This supports the general wellbeing of children, as well as their academic progress.

It is also important that all pupils are punctual and arrive at school ready for 8:55 a.m. The soft start that we introduced previously will continue and all pupils may come to school from 8:00a.m. At St. Vincent's this is how we have chosen to use the government Catch Up funding and so it is interesting to see reports of the school day being extended, as this is something we have been doing for the past year, using the time for academic interventions, social interactions and to help parents who work.

As well as working hard we are aiming to ensure that the children have a fun final term at school. Year 6 will be heading for a week long residential at Sayers Croft and they are busy preparing a fabulous production. We are hoping this can be performed to a live audience and thus have left it to the latest date possible but if not we will live stream so you can enjoy the show from home. Assemblies and whole school celebrations will remain virtual. We hope you have been enjoying watching these on the website. Please do leave a comment! We have also booked our Sports Day and hope that this can be a family event that everyone can attend outdoors. Please save the date of 14th July in your diaries!

All dates will be confirmed on the school website calendar. Please regularly check the school website news posts and content pages www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk as the website continues to be the central source of the most up to date information, and will also continue to be used to celebrate the work taking place in school.

Please remember that you are not alone and we are still very much a school family. If you have any concerns or need any support please do get in touch and we will arrange a virtual meeting. We understand that lots of families circumstances have changed during the pandemic. If your family is leaving it is really important that you let us know so we can offer to next person on waiting list.

Take care of yourselves and each other.

Warm wishes,

Miss Coleman, Headteacher

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRES-HAVE YOUR SAY

As a school we have a number of different self-evaluation procedures. Every year the school compiles a School Development Plan, which identifies areas for improvement over the coming year. We value your opinions and would like contributions from all stakeholders. This week you will receive an email with a link to our annual questionnaire, asking for your opinion of different aspects of school life. Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this form. We look forward to reading your thoughts-celebrating the strengths of the school whilst helping us to identify key areas for improvement.

We would like to remind all parents and carers that if you ever have any queries or concerns, a member of staff is always willing to meet with you to listen and try to find a resolution. As a school team we try our best and work really hard to provide a high quality education for your children but are always looking for ways to improve. All constructive feedback is warmly welcomed. We encourage honest, open dialogue and it is important that we work together, providing positive role models for our pupils. If you wish to raise an issue in person you can make an appointment for a meeting, send in an email to the school office or query via the website. The key point is to raise this directly with the school. Thank you for your continued support. Together through Christ we grow and learn

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RELATIONSHIPS AND HEALTH EDUCATION CONSULTATION

Many thanks to all of the parents and carers who responded to our Relationships and Health Education consultation process.

We had 20 responses in total, of which 19 families stated that they fully supported the school in the teaching of Relationships and Health Education and 1 family who are still undecided.

Parents and carers also gave the following feedback on our Relationships and Health Education Policy and curriculum;

"This is a very rich programme and it is very useful to know its content. Parents could even benefit from more detailed sessions / support in some areas (as you already propose for safe internet)."

"Teaching tolerance towards each other is very important."

"I think it is very important to learn about equality, respecting others (their appearance, their religion, their opinion) and being happy in your body."

"I would also be supportive of the school covering the full content on all modules."

"It is very helpful that the children are being taught to understand that other people may have visible/invisible differences from themselves, and that other people's relationships may appear different to their own, but that respect, consideration, and an understanding of our own positions, are essential. Negative stereotypes and prejudices can embed at a very young age, and it is vital we work together to reduce these. Thank you."

"Pleased to read acknowledgment of and respect for the many different types of family which the children may come from and / or encounter."

Although the consultation process is now completed, you can log on to the TenTen 'Life to the Full' Parent Portal (details have been e-mailed to you) at any time and the Relationships and Health Policy and Progression map are always available to read on the School Website. <https://www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk/curriculum-and-ethos/curriculum/relationships-education/> If you have any questions or concerns at any time about Relationships and Health Education, please contact Miss Siswick via the office e-mail.

HOT WEATHER

As the weather becomes hotter it is important that children are protected. Shade is provided on the roof playground by our lovely canopy and in the courtyard but children inevitably run around and thus are exposed to the sun. We therefore request that children wear a school cap (available from the school office). Children are not allowed to wear any versions that are not part of the school uniform. It is also advisable that children apply sunscreen before coming to school. In the exceptional circumstances where children have very sensitive skin, they may bring in additional suncream in a bag clearly marked with the child's name which is to be handed into the class teacher at the beginning of the day. Unfortunately members of staff are not allowed to administer sun screen so it is the child's responsibility to apply the actual cream.



ST. VINCENT'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION (S.V.P.A.)

The S.V.P.A. Auction is back! The event will be held on Friday 2nd July, in person if restrictions have been lifted, or online. Please mark this date in your diary. Although we are holding a scaled down version this year we still have a range of amazing lots on offer, including our art masterpieces. We hope it will be lots of fun whilst also raising much needed funds for the school. More details will be sent home soon and the website will continue to have regular updates. If you are able to support the S.V.P.A., please come along to the next meeting on Wednesday 9th June at midday. A zoom invite will be sent by email. Thank you so much to our wonderful Chairs, the Class Representatives, and every parents. Carer who has supported the SVPA activities-it really is a shared effort for the benefit of all children attending our school.