



St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and carers,

We are so excited to welcome all children back to school on Monday 8th March. We have missed seeing them at school every day and are looking forward to seeing them in person, not just on a screen!

Thank you all for your tremendous support during this period of lockdown and well done for your successful efforts with remote learning. We hope that we do not need to revert to this again but, if we do need to close a bubble, we are confident that the systems we have in place can work with immediate effect. For this reason please do keep the Chromebooks at home for now and they can be used for homework.

A special thank you is also due to the St. Vincent's staff team who have worked really hard providing online learning as well as supporting the children of key workers and vulnerable pupils who were attending school. It has not been easy but I am so proud of our school family and the positive outcomes from this challenging time. We are all still feeling quite anxious about the future but the roll out of the vaccine, the drop in the number of infection and the coming of Spring bring hope for the future.

In his message for Lent 2021, Pope Francis calls on the faithful to 'renew our faith, draw from the living waters of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God.' Our Catholic faith continues to give us the strength, guidance and comfort we need and we are busy working on an Easter Celebration to share with you all.

If you have any concerns or need any support please do get in touch and we will arrange a virtual meeting. Although we still need to maintain a physical distance we will continue to work together.

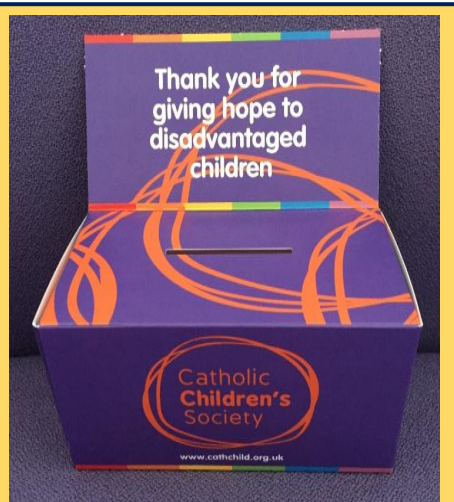
Please remember to regularly check the school website www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk as this continues to be the central source of the most up to date information, and will also be used to celebrate the work taking place in school.

Take care of yourselves and each other.

Warm wishes, Miss Coleman, Headteacher

ECO SCHOOL GREEN FLAG

Even during lockdown we maintained our key values and worked hard. Huge congratulations are due to Ms Knowler and the Green Team who successfully renewed our Eco School Green Flag-and to everyone at St. Vincent's who follows our Green Charter. We were thrilled to receive the following message: ***Congratulations on achieving your Eco-School Green Flag! I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you for continuing to work on your Eco-Schools Green Flag during these unprecedented times- it is a true reflection of your schools determination to make a real difference.***



COMMON GOOD: LENTEN CHALLENGE

During Lent, we can try to become closer to God through prayer, fasting, and giving to others. Every year we traditionally support the Catholic Children's Society (CCS) and during this pandemic some of our families have really appreciated the help they have received from the CCS. This year the CCS Lenten Challenge is: **"Will we bend down and help another to get up?"** In his recent encyclical 'Fratelli Tutti', Pope Francis sets us a challenge: "Each day we have to decide whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders . . . Will we bend down and help another get up? This is today's challenge, and we should not be afraid to face it." This Lent the CCS is asking schools to take up Pope Francis' challenge and help local disadvantaged children and families in their time of need. Thank you for your support!

Together through Christ we grow and learn



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WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR SCHOOL FAMILY SAFE

You will be aware from our regular emails and website updates, including the regularly updated Risk Assessments and Home School Agreement, of the many ways the school is working to keep everyone safe. We cannot do this alone and need the full support of all families. A reminder is below of the commitment we need from parents and carers in order to ensure a safe and purposeful environment for all. Miss Coleman, Mrs Duffy and Miss Carruthers will be responsible for reminding everyone of these requirements so please do not be offended if we need to speak to you-this really is a team effort!

Please remember to:

- only bring a child to school who is well and not displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 or any other illness
- not bring a child to school if any member of the household is displaying any of the symptoms of Covid-19
- act quickly and safely to collect a child from school if they are unwell
- inform the school if a child or family member becomes unwell with symptoms of Covid-19
- if a child show symptoms of Covid-19 to arrange a test as soon as possible and inform the school of the result
- ensure that children attend school wearing their school uniform or their PE kit on the designated day for PE lessons
- ensure that only one adult attends the school to drop off or pick up
- ensure that all adults coming to the school will wear a face covering
- ensure that no adults enter the school building, including not using the school office unless absolutely essential (all communication with school needs to be via telephone or email)
- as is normal practice, parents and carers should be available during the school day in case school needs to make contact (please ensure that we have updated contact details)
- drop children off and pick children up at the specific time given for that year group, to ensure social distancing measures can be maintained, and not congregate outside of the set times
- not mix or congregate with other families at drop off and pick up to ensure minimal contact with those who live outside of the family home
- keep to government guidance when not in school for example not mixing with other households, to minimise the risk of transmission of the virus to our school family

The continued safety of our school family is the priority. Thank you for your continued support.

If you would like more information please do look at the following pages on the school website:

<https://www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk/news/back-to-school-for-parents/>
<https://www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk/news/back-to-school-for-children/>
<https://www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk/school-info/wellbeing/coronavirus/>
<https://www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk/school-info/wellbeing/>
<https://www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk/school-info/wellbeing/mental-health/>



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