

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

Thank you to the wonderful St. Vincent's Parents Association (S.V.P.A.) for their fantastic fundraising efforts over the years. This year we will continue the arrangement of co-chairs whilst we try and find a new way of working together. Thank you for this huge commitment.

Julie Nouailhetas, mother of Leopald, Reception and Stella Y5

Shana Toes, mother of Georgia, Nursery, Sebastian Y4 and William Y5

Nicole Rao, mother of Layla Y3 and Ajay Y5

We are very grateful to them for taking on this challenge and wish them well in their new roles. Thanks are also given to everyone who contributes to the fantastic work of the SVPA for your amazing support of the school.

We will be trialling holding SVPA meeting virtually and the first meeting will be on Wednesday 7th October at midday. We hope this time allows parents who are working to attend the meeting during their lunch break. Please look for an invitation, which will be sent home next week with the joining instructions.

The S.V.P.A. always welcome new members. Please come along and share your ideas, offer assistance and make new friends!

ONLINE SAFETY

Social media and spending time online continues to be a focus for us at St Vincent's. While we know there are many positives to technology, such as access to information and keeping in touch with families and friends, we also want to make sure we use it safely and do not over use it. It is important for parents to keep conversations going with your child about what they are doing online, which games they are playing and who with, and who they are talking to (including if they are part of any groups). Another way to help manage your child's time on devices is to try to work out a time budget with your child. This means that together you can decide how much time they will be using their device for, as well as trying to keep all devices out of the bedroom at night.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Following in the footsteps of St Vincent de Paul, we are always trying to help those who have less than us. This month we are collecting tinned and dried food for the Westminster Foodbank. We are asking everyone to bring donations such as toiletries, cleaning products, tinned meat, UHT milk, pasta sauce, sugar, sponge puddings and cooking oil. The Foodbank provides short term emergency food to people in crisis. Food is given as an intervention strategy which allows care professionals, such as Church Pastoral Workers, Health Visitors, Social Services, time to put longer term measures in place. If you have not already sent in any goods, please bring them to school and we will collect them all on the table by the main door. Thank you!

WEBSITE

We will continue to use our website as the main source of information about the school and we will continue to upload regular news posts. Please do leave comments so we know that you are looking at these and to help us plan future content.

ASSEMBLIES

We will also use the website to share class assemblies with you. These will launch at 9:10 on Friday mornings. Please watch along with us and leave a comment to show your appreciation to the class. Today saw the launch of the Year 6 Class Assembly, our first this year, and it is just wonderful.

IMPORTANT DATES IN OCTOBER

2nd Year 6 Assembly-see website new post

7th Second Hand Uniform sale for Nursery and Reception

7th 12:00 SVPA Meeting-joining link will be sent by email

9th Year 5 Assembly-see website new post

16th -23rd Enterprise Week

18th Enterprise Week sales-children may bring up to £2 to school

26th - 30th Half term

31st Secondary Transfer application deadline



St Vincent's Catholic Primary School NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2020



Dear parents and carers,

The weather may be wet and miserable but we have enjoyed a bright, positive start to the academic year at St. Vincent's and we are all adapting to the new systems and routines.

Our new Nursery pupils have now all started, and we extend a warm welcome to them and their families. We hope that you are very happy at our school.

As you are aware, we have worked hard to settle the children back into school and we are constantly reviewing our practices so there may well be further changes. The safety of our school family is always our priority. Please can all parents support us with this by adhering to social distancing and leaving the vicinity as soon as children have been dropped off/ collected. Thank you to everyone who is doing this but some parents are loitering, which is sadly putting others at risk.

We are currently refining our remote learning plan in case a Bubble has to isolate or if there is a local lockdown. We have no additional information about this but want to be prepared.

This newsletter includes a summary of the key changes and more detail can be found on the school website www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk, which we are constantly updating.

If there is any further information you would like, please let me know. If you have any concerns or matters you would like to discuss further, please let the office know and an appointment will be made with the appropriate member of staff. We appreciate that it is more difficult to speak directly with teachers now but the office staff will forward any emails and set up virtual meetings. We want to work together and thank you for your continued support of the school.

This is a challenging time for many of our school family but we will do all we can to support you.

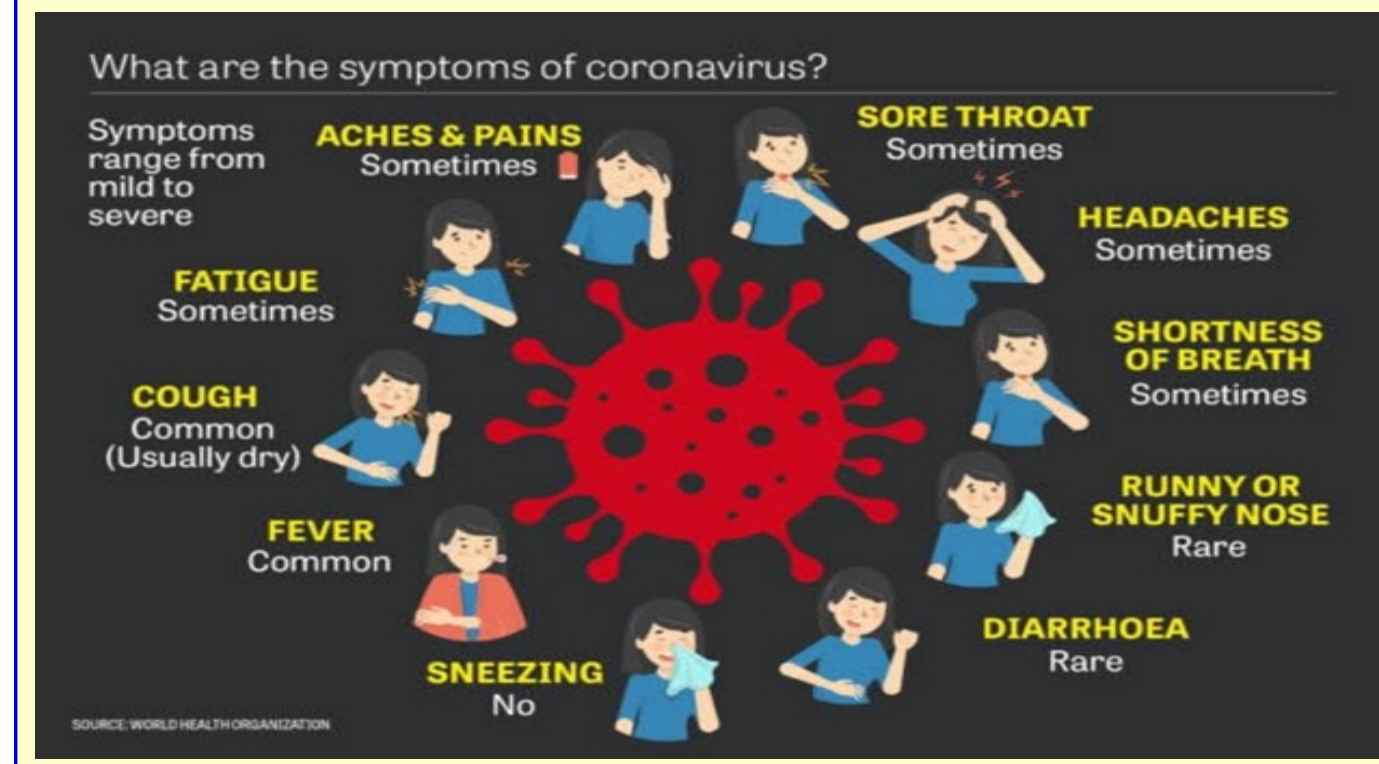
Yours sincerely,

M. Coleman

COVID SYMPTOMS & ATTENDANCE

Please be reminded that school attendance is once again mandatory. This means that, unless children are unwell, they should be in school. Some parents seem to be confused about the symptom of coronavirus (which would require isolation and testing) and the symptoms of a common cold (which should not impact on children attending school). The diagram below should help and there is more guidance on the school website.

Some of you may be planning your half term break. Please be aware that many countries will have quarantine requirements and we expect you to factor this in before embarking on your trip. Attendance at school is mandatory and, as many pupils will be missing school because they have to self-isolate, we do not want them to have any additional time away.



PUPIL REPRESENTATIVES

Our pupils are wonderful ambassadors for our school and in this newsletter we thank all the children who have taken on additional responsibilities this year by joining one of our pupil groups. Well done for taking up this challenge and good luck in your new roles.

PUPIL CHAPLAINS

Our Pupil Chaplains support the religious life of the school. Thank you to Nika, Lavinia, Maia, Aisha, Holly, William, Mayowa, Julia, and Alfred for taking on this important responsibility.

SCHOOL COUNCIL 2020-21

The School Council elections took place at the beginning of this term and congratulations are due to the newly elected representatives for this year 2020/2021.

Foundation Stage Representative: Elena, Year 6

Year 1: Sibylle & Marcus

Year 2: Clemence & Aiden

Year 3: Marisa & Julian

Year 4: Orla & Louis

Year 5: Julia G & Paolo

Year 6: Elsa & Iggy

GREEN TEAM 2020-2021

Many of our Green team members have remained the same so they can continue the good work started last year. Thank you to everyone for this commitment and congratulations to the new members. .

Foundation Stage Rep: Jeanne

Year 1: Sophia & Moses

Year 2: Louise & Jacob

Year 3: Albert & Catherine

Year 4: Reuben & Samuel

Year 5: Stella & Pablo

Year 6: Sebastiao & Gaby

SPORTS AMBASSADORS

At St. Vincent's we have a dedicated team of Rights Respecting Sports Ambassadors. The pupils promote the positive values of sport whilst aiming to increase participation opportunities and healthy lifestyles for everyone! Thank you to Erin (Head Sports Ambassador), Theo (Deputy Head Sports Ambassador), Regan, Iggy, Dylan, Marco, Martin, Tijne, Amarissa and Louis for your hard work.

ENTERPRISE WEEK 2020

This year our annual Enterprise Week will be held from 19th-23rd October and has some exciting changes! At the Enterprise Week Launch, each class will be given a loan of £25 to produce a product to be sold. Each class will have to create a name, logo to represent their company and an advert (that will be filmed) for everyone to watch to try and persuade children to buy their products!

Once all classes have watched the adverts, the children will decide what they would like to order and complete online order forms during their lessons. After all the order forms have been completed, it will be time to create the orders! On Friday 23rd October, all the orders will be ready and the children will collect their products.

All products will be £1 and the children may bring in a maximum of £2 to spend.

Through Enterprise Week, we aim:

- To awaken the creative potential of children, providing them with opportunities to generate ideas and make them happen.
- To improve children's using and applying mathematics skills through problem solving in an enjoyable, real-life and meaningful context.
- To promote financial management and enterprise skills for life, such as risk-taking, making financial decisions, managing a budget, being resourceful and taking the initiative.
- To provide children with the opportunity to use their God-given talents and work as part of a team, respecting the contribution that each person has to make.
- To continue to build our learning powers, focusing on reciprocity as we work as a team, resilience as we will not give up even if we face challenge, resourcefulness as we decide how to make out product and finally reflectiveness when we evaluate our products and the processes at the end of the week.

This is a fun week to end the first half term with lots of cross curricular learning opportunities!

UNIFORM REMINDERS

After half term all children must be wearing full winter uniform. For Key Stage 1 and 2 children this means that polo shirts must be replaced by shirts with a tie. Girls may wear plain navy school trousers but not leggings or any trousers with details. For P.E. all children should wear plain navy tracksuit bottoms and a white polo shirt with the school logo.

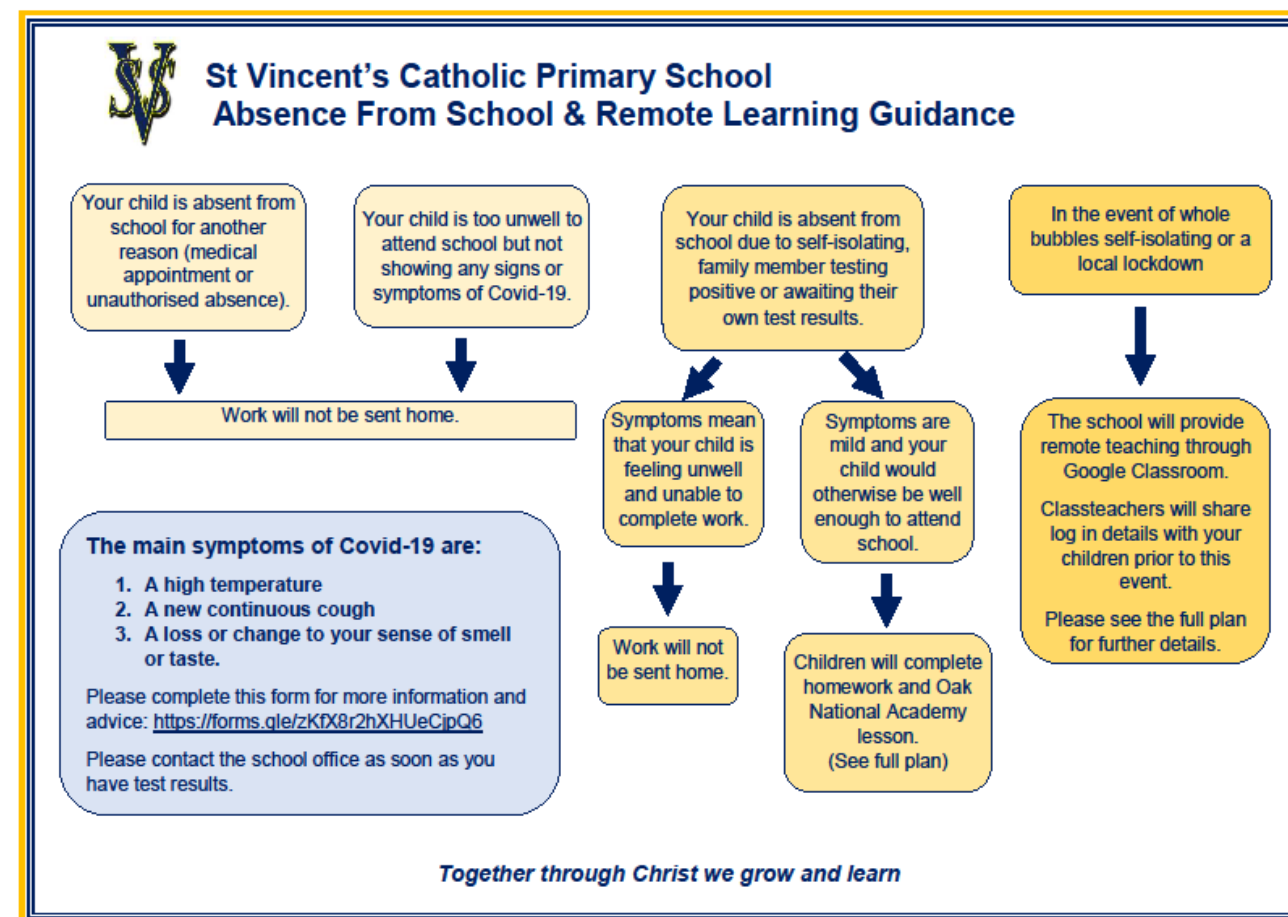
Foundation Stage (Reception and Nursery) children continue to wear their uniform of plain navy tracksuit bottoms, a pale blue polo shirt with the school logo and the school sweatshirt with the logo. Sweatshirts should not be worn in other year groups. The SVPA will be holding a second hand uniform sale on St. Vincent Street on Wednesday 7th October 8:00-9:00a.m. (weather permitting).

REMOTE LEARNING PLAN

As you are aware, we have been working on a Remote Learning Plan in case a class or Bubble needs to self-isolate, or there is a local lockdown requiring pupils to remain at home. A summary of this is below and more detail will be sent home next week. Building on our previous experience, we will be moving to the use of Google Classrooms. This will enable daily interaction with their class teachers and the use of video explanations of the tasks by the classteacher. To support those families with limited devices we have purchased Chromebooks that pupils can borrow and today all children have been given their log in and a task to complete so that we can be confident everyone can access the learning platform. Please do try this over the weekend.

However, as much as the technology is essential, we are looking to provide activities that can be completed away from the screen, with lots of reading and written work to be completed in books as well as physical activities that can be completed indoors. The work set will match the school curriculum and will mirror the school day so there is consistency and routine, and it will be easier to return to school after the designated period of remote learning.

Thank you once again to everyone who contributed to our COVID Fund-your donations have benefitted everyone in our school family and helped us to ensure that, if we need to use it, our remote learning offer is ready immediately and addresses the needs of our school community.



HOMEWORK

At present all homework information will be posted on the school website. The English and Maths will be posted as a Home Learning post each half term, with activities to complete in Homework Books and the Wednesday Word is posted as a Whole School Blog. The weekly task will be posted on the Class Blog so that children can upload their work to be shared on the website.

Homework is set on Wednesday and needs to be returned on Monday.

Reading books are given out on Mondays and need to be returned on Friday (so they can 'quarantine' over the weekend).

More information about your year group's homework can be found on the class pages on the website in the Home learning section. As we prepare for using Google classrooms for remote learning we may use this more for regular homework to ensure that everyone is familiar with this.