St Vincent’s Catholic Primary School

JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

TOGETHER, THROUGH CHRIST, WE GROW AND LEARN

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome back to school. I hope you all had a peaceful and holy holiday and wish you a very happy new year. A special thank you to everyone who sent cards and gave gifts to myself and the staff. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is always greatly appreciated.

This week we will be reflecting on the Epiphany, being reminded that we are all important and welcomed, and thanking God for the special gifts we have been given. Please do join us as we celebrate our first school mass of 2020 at 9:15 a.m. on Friday in the school hall.

The year ahead brings some change for the school-including a new telephone number which will finally show up as the school number. Please save 020 3146 0743. Some information is included in this newsletter but the school website is intended to be the main source of up-to-date information and is where you will find full details of the staffing changes and also the building works developments. The calendar is also very useful as this is where the dates for the term ahead are recorded. The website is fantastic for immediate sharing of the range of wonderful learning that takes place at a school on a daily basis.

We always want to strengthen our partnership with parents so if there is a matter you would like to discuss please do make an appointment-you will always be warmly welcomed and we value the importance of home and school working together in the best interests of the children.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely, Miss Coleman, Headteacher

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS 2019

Well done to our pupils and teachers for the range of wonderful Christmas Celebrations. Each Key Stage produced a fantastic performance and each event was fully supported by a great attendance from their families. We hope you enjoyed them!

IMPORTANT DATES IN JANUARY 2020

3rd Year 4 visiting the Steve McQueen Year 3 Exhibition at the Tate
4th 9:15 Mathematics Open Morning-all welcome
5th Perform Drama workshops for EYFS and KS1
6th Year 5 visiting the British Museum
7th a.m. Year 6 attending ‘Animals’ Science workshop at Queen’s
7th 10:35 Reception Assembly-all welcome
10th-14th World Week
11th Safer Internet day
12th-13th Whole school art workshops-thank you to the SVPA
12th 9:00 SVPA Meeting-all welcome
12th Zoom Rail workshops for Years 3 and 4
13th Road Safety Show for Years 5 and 6
14th 10:00 Cultural Assembly-all welcome
17th-21st Half Term

IMPORTANT DATES IN FEBRUARY 2020

3rd Year 4 visiting the Steve McQueen Year 3 Exhibition at the Tate
4th 9:15 Mathematics Open Morning-all welcome
5th Perform Drama workshops for EYFS and KS1
6th Year 5 visiting the British Museum
7th a.m. Year 6 attending ‘Animals’ Science workshop at Queen’s
7th 10:35 Reception Assembly-all welcome
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ONLINE SAFETY MESSAGE FOR PARENTS
As you are aware, we are trying very hard to support parents understanding of online safety. This is an important issue for our pupils as they are growing up in a technologically advanced world. The online safety page on the school website has links to a number of useful guides, resources and websites, including how to install parental controls. We will provide regular updates by email or in this newsletter to address any issues that have been raised in school. Please find below Five top tips to manage children’s screen time, which has been produced by internetmatters.org

NEW YEAR RESOLUTION 2020
We kindly ask parents to adhere to the school uniform policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, representing the school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. Our policy is based on the notion that school uniform:
- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- identifies the children with the school;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.
We ask all parents to support the school to support the school uniform policy. This has been sent home again today by email and is available on the school website. We believe that parents have a duty and responsibility to send their children to school correctly dressed in the correct uniform, that it is clean and in good repair and they have all they need for their day.

STAFFING UPDATE 2020
We are very pleased to welcome Miss Disco to St. Vincent’s. She will be teaching most classes across the school, covering the previous teaching commitments of Mrs Robinson, who has now retired, and Mrs Duffy, who is currently on maternity leave. Other responsibilities will be covered internally for the year ahead. Congratulations to the staff below on their new roles and thank you to them for their support of the school during this time.
- Miss Carruthers will be the Acting Assistant Headteacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Miss Coleman will be the Acting SENDCo
- Miss Gorick and Miss Jones will join the Senior Leadership Team
All other teaching responsibilities are detailed on the staff pages of the school website. Please speak to Miss Coleman if you have any questions.

STAFFING UPDATE 2020

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER 020 3146 0743 During the Christmas holidays we continued to try and make improvements to the school. We are pleased that, with financial support from the St. Vincent’s Parents’ Association, we have upgraded our school telephone system to the latest technology, making it more efficient and finally providing us with a telephone number that will not be blocked from your phones! The new school telephone number is 020 3146 0743. Please do save this.

EARLY HELP COFFEE MORNING Wednesday 29th January 2020—all welcome
Hello parents/carers, let me introduce myself my name is Sharon Blake and I am the Early Help link worker connected with St Vincent’s.
So what is Early Help? First of all we are not Social workers, we are family practitioners who work in the locality of Westminster helping signpost and supporting families’ with queries around such subjects as attendance, transition, housing, debt, benefits, behaviour, youth activities during and out of term time, and many more.
I am excited to be invited to St. Vincent coffee morning to discuss all the support and help we offer in the local community. Whether you need advice or support for yourself, family members or a friend please pop along it would be nice to meet you.

EARLY HELP COFFEE MORNING Wednesday 29th January 2020—all welcome

STAFFING UPDATE 2020

MATHS OPEN MORNING Tuesday 4th February 2020 – all welcome
We will be holding a Mathematics Open Morning to which all parents are warmly invited. The morning will begin with a presentation by the Mathematics Leader, Miss Gorick, followed by the opportunity to see Maths being taught in every class across the school.

NURSERY AND RECEPTION ADMISSIONS The closing date for Nursery and Reception applications is 15th January 2020. A place in the Nursery does not guarantee a place in Reception and even if your child has a current place in the Nursery you must apply separately for a place in Reception. Reception applicants who live in Westminster must also complete a Westminster Common Application Form (CAF) and return this directly to Westminster Admissions department or complete the CAF for their home borough. Applicants will be notified of the outcomes of their applications on Thursday 16th April 2020.