



St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

RE Inspection

On Thursday 22nd March our RE Inspection took place. The report will not come out until after the Easter break and we are not allowed to share the outcomes before it does. However, what I can say is that we are very pleased with the positive feedback we received from the inspectors. They were impressed by the quality of teaching across the school, the behaviour and attitude of the children towards their learning and the opportunities for prayer and reflection that we provide for the children. Well done to all involved and particularly to the staff for all their hard work.

Parent Questionnaire

A very important aspect of the inspection process is the response of parents to the Parental Questionnaire. I would like to thank all those who were able to complete and return a questionnaire as it meant the inspection started on a very good footing. We had a huge number of positive comments about how parents appreciate the quality and effort made by the staff and with the prayer life and RE provision generally throughout the school. I have included a tally of your responses to each question at the end of this newsletter which reflects a very positive view of the school by parents. This is uplifting for the staff and makes all the hard work they put in worthwhile.

Before and after school child care

As you are aware we are trying to put in place before and after school child care here at St Vincent's. Can I firstly say thank you for your patience regarding this matter as I know many parents need such a provision. The process has taken longer than I anticipated and I, too, am frustrated that we have not yet put it in place. The process has been delayed for a number of reasons:

- In order to proceed it is necessary to have a secure entry and access system for the area of the school we will be using. The carrying out of this work is a substantial cost and we, therefore, applied for a grant to cover this. I have now received the good news that we are to receive this grant. Although it does not cover the whole cost we should, with the help of the PTA and the school's budget, be able to carry out the necessary work.
- There is a need to show due diligence to the St Alban Catholic Academies Trust. We have provided the Trust with all the necessary documentation and are awaiting their response. There is a meeting in the near future and I will, after this, send a general update to parents about the situation.

Although I cannot still give a definite start date for this provision I am very confident that it will happen and am committed to ensuring that it does. The latest start date will be September 2018 but we hope it will be before then. I will keep parents informed of any developments.

PTA Discos

The PTA discos are running tomorrow, Tuesday 27th March, so I hope your child is clutching a ticket in readiness. The times are:

- 3.30-4.15: Years Reception, 1 and 2
- 4.30-5.15: Years 3,4, 5 and 6

I would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA for providing such activities and raising money for the school. Thanks to the PTA we will shortly have a new projector screen in the hall and an improved gated entrance to the school (much too narrow for us all at the moment!). Please continue to support the work of the PTA and if you feel you can get more involved then please contact Mrs Gallagher through the school office.

School Uniform

After the Easter break summer dresses, along with a cardigan or jumper, may be worn instead of the normal school uniform. For those that do not wear summer dresses the normal school uniform, including ties, must be worn. **After the May half term break**, children will be able to wear their school shirt without a tie. To avoid any confrontation regarding this matter please ensure your child wears the correct uniform to school.

Year 6 and Caythorpe Court

On Wednesday 14th March Year 6 spent two nights and days at Caythorpe Court. They had a fantastic time (as did their parents at home!) and thoroughly enjoyed all the fun activities and opportunities to bond and work as teams. I would like to thank the staff who went with them for their care and commitment, especially outside of the normal school day.

Year 3 – Easter Reflection

The children of Years 3&4 presented us with Easter Children, the Easter Story, last week. This was an amazing production and a wonderful way for us to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus. Well done to all the children involved and a big thank you to Miss Regan, Miss Nyoka, Mrs Osborne and Mrs Cogger for preparing the children so well.

We break up on **Thursday 29th March at 2.15pm**. Please join us for The Passion, in the Church, at 1.30pm.

I would like to wish you all a peaceful Easter and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Tuesday 17th April**.



Kind regards

J P Carroll
Head Teacher

Monday 26th March 2018

RE Parent Questionnaire Results – March 2018

| | Agree or better | Agree strongly | Agree | Neither | Disagree | Disagree strongly | Unable to comment |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-------|---------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. I am pleased that my child attends a Roman Catholic school. | 99% | 89% | 10% | 1% | | | |
| 2. I am happy with what is taught in Religious Education (RE) lessons | 99% | 74% | 25% | | | | 1% |
| 3. I am well informed by the school about the work my child does in RE. | 83% | 48% | 35% | 10% | 1% | | 6% |
| 4. My child's RE reports are clear and informative. | 80% | 45% | 35% | 6% | 1% | | 11% |
| 5. I am happy with the opportunities for prayer and worship in the school. | 100% | 75% | 27% | | | | |
| 6. I am happy with the celebrations of Mass at the school. | 97% | 73% | 24% | | | | 3% |
| 7. Pupils are encouraged to make a positive contribution to parish life. | 93% | 55% | 38% | 3% | | | 4% |
| 8. I am satisfied that the school promotes Christian values | 100% | 85% | 15% | | | | |
| 9. I am happy with the provision for sex/relationship education in the school | 65% | 34% | 31% | 10% | 4% | 3% | 18% |
| 10. I am happy with the relationships and standards of behaviour in the school. | 98% | 46% | 52% | 1% | | | |
| 11. I am happy to recommend the school to other parents. | 100% | 66% | 34% | | | | |