



# St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

Hammersmith Gardens, Houghton Regis, LU5 5RG

Telephone: 01582 862456

E:mail: [admin@stvincentshr.org](mailto:admin@stvincentshr.org)

Website: [www.stvincentshr.org](http://www.stvincentshr.org)

Head Teacher: Mr S Chiswell

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Welcome Back

I hope you all had a lovely half term; it is lovely to be back; the children have come back refreshed and ready for the second half of our Advent Term. Our staff training day on Monday focused on Maths and our Deputy Headteacher Mrs Waldram led staff in developing our teaching to improve outcomes for our children.

## Parent Consultations

It was with a heavy heart that I had to postpone our parent consultations this week. Teachers were really looking forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's start to the school year. Please be assured we will hold remote meetings later this term. As soon as I have more information, I will share this with you. To provide you with information about your child's start to the school year today, children in Years 1 - 6 will be bringing home a short written report with targets for them to work on. Please do take the time to read the report and spend time with your children working on the targets set by their class teacher.

## COVID Update

This week you received a letter via Parentmail which was sent to all schools in Central Bedfordshire regarding the increase in COVID cases in the county. Although this may be something we expected as we move further into winter, this is obviously disappointing and was the reason for the postponement of parent consultations. I would like to reassure you all we have acted on the guidance provided to prevent further spreading of the virus. Below are the main changes we have already made:

- Masks are worn by staff in communal areas in our schools
- Parents and visitors will need to wear masks when in the school buildings
- School assemblies will not take place in person, where appropriate we will record / remotely lead online assemblies
- Before and after school extra-curricular clubs will not take place, the exemptions are EBLO and Y6 Boosters
- Where possible social distancing will be promoted
- Where possible classrooms and other rooms used by children and staff will be well ventilated
- Staff and children to wash / sanitise hands regularly

**"Jesus, be the centre of our lives"**

The Diocese of Northampton in partnership with Central Bedfordshire Council

Registered Company Number: 9660515

St Alban Catholic Academies Trust | Cardinal Newman Catholic School | Warden Hill Road | Luton | LU2 7AE **Tel:** 01582 597125



Cardinal  
Newman  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL





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- Where possible different classes will not spend long periods of time together
- Where possible meetings with parents will take place remotely
- Events that would involve large numbers of people in our school will now not take place eg Christmas Fair
- I have not yet cancelled other events in December but will review this during November. I do fear we will find we have to cancel more events. I of course will share details as soon as decisions are made. Please refer to the Key Dates section of the newsletter for the most up to date information.

I am confident that the above measures will support our schools in keeping our school community as safe as possible. I will not hesitate to implement further strategies if the guidance advises us to do so.

Thank you for your support.

## Remembrance Day – Poppy Appeal

We have the opportunity to support the Poppy Appeal again in school over the next few weeks. Poppies are available for a donation and there are other items also available. Suggested donations are as follows: for a zip pull, 50p; for a reflector, 50p; for a wristband, £1 and for a snap band, £1.50. The items will be brought round to classes each day and children can bring in money for this from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

## Homework

Thank you for your support with homework. As you will know, Years 1 – 4 receive Bingo Homework each half term; this allows families to choose which activity they would like to do each week. New Bingo Homework will be posted on Class Dojo by next Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November for Years 1 – 4.

## First Holy Communion

Some parents have asked if the schools have any information regarding First Holy Communion this year. St Mary's Church has confirmed more information will be provided during Advent. Please look out for information in the church bulletin. We will also share relevant information as it becomes available.

## Birthdays

Please be reminded that children are invited to dress in their own clothes on their birthday; please do not allow your children to bring sweets into school for their friends. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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## School Diary

Attached to this newsletter are the key dates for the remainder of this term. Please note the dates are subject to change so please do refer to them each time a newsletter is sent home.

God bless,

Mr Chiswell

## Key Dates

(Please note these are subject to change, more information will follow where appropriate.)

Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS Christmas Production	9.15
	<b>Christmas Dinner</b>	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS Christmas Production	9.15
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	KS 1 Production	14.00
	KS 1 Production	18.00
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Parties / Jumper Day	
	Y1 & 2 Christmas Disco	14.00 – 15.00
	KS 2 Discos	Time to be confirmed
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service	Time to be confirmed
	End of Advent Term	14.00
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff Training Day	
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Start of Lent 1 <sup>st</sup> Half Term	
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Half of Lent Term	
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Start of Lent 2 <sup>nd</sup> Half Term	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	End of Lent Term	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Staff Training Day	
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Start of Pentecost 1 <sup>st</sup> Half Term	
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Half of Pentecost Term	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Start of Pentecost 2 <sup>nd</sup> Half Term	
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	End of Pentecost Term	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Staff Training Day	

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