

# St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

*To love, serve and learn as Jesus shows us*



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Head Teacher: Mr Dominic Vernon



Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020

Good morning to all our parents, carers and children,

First and foremost, I hope that you are all safe and well at home. Thank you to those who have been posting pictures and messages on Twitter to share with the staff what you have been up to so far at home – it is lovely to see you, as all the staff are missing you all.

I also write to thank you for making provision to ensure that most children are now remaining at home. Understandably, a small number of children are still coming to school because of the key roles that parents are playing in the fight against Coronavirus, however I am pleased that the vast majority of children are able to stay at home as instructed by the Government. This is going to be a challenging time as we all adjust to new routines and the restrictions being placed on our lives, but we have to hope and pray that the difficult measures that we are all taking will, in the long term, save lives and minimise the spread of this virus as much as possible.

For those few who still need their children to be in school, *a reminder that you need to inform us of your requirements by Friday lunchtime each week* so that we can plan for the following week. The easiest way to do this is by email to: [office@stvincentsprimary.org](mailto:office@stvincentsprimary.org)

We are committed to ensuring that we meet the needs of those parents who are key workers and need to access school provision, so will remain open throughout what would have been the Easter holiday period, including Good Friday and Easter Monday if there is the need. Therefore, in order to support planning for this period, I am asking that you notify us of any requirements for next week (week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> April) **and** the following week (week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> April), **by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** so that we can ensure that any requirements are met. We can then return to weekly notification by Friday lunchtime for the following week after this “holiday” period. Again, the easiest way to do this is by email to: [office@stvincentsprimary.org](mailto:office@stvincentsprimary.org)

In relation to the learning being set for children to complete at home, I just want to provide a few updates and reminders:

- Please check our website ([www.stvincentsprimary.org](http://www.stvincentsprimary.org)) regularly.
  - We are constantly updating the list of websites offering free resources and activities to support your child's home learning.
  - Teachers are publishing weekly activities for your child to complete at home – go to the “home learning” tab and click on your child's year group. As explained in previous information sent home, if your child is struggling to access the work set for their year group, or needs further challenge, please encourage them to look at work set for previous year groups or the year group above.



- We have now also set up an archive so that you can access previous weekly activities and resources – go to the “home learning” tab, click on “archive of home learning activities” and then click on your child’s year group.
- On Twitter, we are also sharing any links to activities or online events that you and your children may enjoy, so even if you do not have a Twitter account, please keep checking posts. These can be accessed by searching for @stvincentsrcp directly on Twitter or via the front page of our school website.
- The textbooks and reading books sent home to support your child’s learning will need to be returned to school when we do re-open, so please make sure that any work is completed in the exercise books provided and not directly into the textbooks. Please ensure that you keep these textbooks and reading books ready to return to school.

Activities published for next week will include the whole week, even though if school had been open, we would have been finishing for the Easter holidays on Tuesday. Next week we will also publish Easter-related activities for children to enjoy during Holy Week and the week following Easter weekend. This is especially important as we will be unable to gather together at Church to celebrate the most important feast day of the Christian year. All activities published next week, along with “learning projects” and curriculum homework challenges will provide plenty for children to continue to access during the “holiday period”. I am sure you will want to join me in thanking teachers who, from home are planning learning activities and resources to support you and your children during this challenging period of home learning and all staff who continue to be in school to care for key worker children and keep our school running.

As always, thank you for your continued support and cooperation during this challenging time.

Stay home - stay safe – look after each other.

*Mr Dominic Vernon*

Head Teacher