

St Vincent's Catholic Primary

School Newsletter



To love, serve and learn as Jesus shows us

Friday 27th May 2022

Have a great half term break everyone!

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Week ending: 20/05/2022

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	99%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	99%
Year 4	99%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	97%

Well done to Year 1 class who had the best attendance

Future dates for your diary...

Please be aware that, whilst every effort will be made to keep to dates set, at times it may be necessary to change a date so please check the newsletter which will keep you informed of any changes:

Friday 27th May: School closes for Whit

Monday 13th June: School reopens after Whit

wb 13th June: Year 1 phonics check

Friday 17th June: Father's Day assembly (led by Year 1 and 2)

Friday 17th June: Non-uniform day (wear yellow) and Cake sale for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust

Monday 20th June: Sports Day

Wb 20th June: Year 4 times tables check

DATES FOR THE DIARY

	Events	Clubs
Mon 13th June	SCHOOL REOPENS AFTER HALF TERM	Science Art Spanish
Tues 14th		
Wed 15th		Cross Country Baking
Thurs 16th	Y4 Swimming	Football Lego
Fri 17th	Yellow Day 9am: Father's Day Assembly	

HOUSE POINTS TOTALS

St George	St Patrick	St Andrew	St David
552	545	384	463

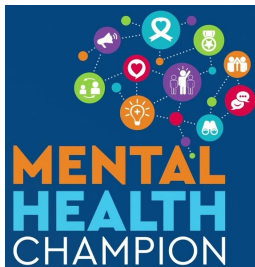
Congratulations to St George's Team who have earned the most team points this half term.

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

Well done to this week's super stars!



Reception	Nate O
Year 1	James F
Year 2	Ivy H
Year 3	Macy W
Year 4	Yoka K
Year 5	Erin E
Year 6	All of them for an amazing few days



MENTAL HEALTH CHAMPIONS TOP TIP

This week's top tip from our School Council Mental Health Champions:

Lots of Laughter

Have a laugh over the holidays! Did you know the average child laughs about 300 times a day. An adult only 20. Studies show that laughter can help relieve pain, bring greater happiness and even increase immunity. So today, put on a video clip, re-live a memory or watch an episode of your favourite feel good show. And giggle to your heart's content! Why not make a joke book to share with your family and friends over the holidays?



JUBILEE PICNIC

Cakes are ready, tables are set, bunting is hung and we are looking forward to welcoming everyone to our Jubilee Picnic this afternoon.

Photographs of the event will be shared on Twitter from school. **PLEASE DO NOT TAKE YOUR OWN PHOTOGRAPHS THIS AFTERNOON.**

Thank you.

NUT FREE ZONE

A reminder to all parents that children should not bring nuts, or foods containing nuts into school as there are children in our school who have a nut allergy.



YELLOW DAY

On Friday 17th June, the School Council have organised a non-uniform day to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. Children are invited to wear yellow to school for a suggested donation of £1 to support the work of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. Cakes will be on sale at break time if children would also like to buy a cake for 50p.

Thank you for your support

Cystic Fibrosis Trust

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to the Year 4 children who celebrated their First Holy Communion last weekend. We are so proud of them all for the confident, respectful way in which they led a beautiful celebration.



PENKETH LIBRARY

To commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, we have on display in Penketh Library a collection of memories and photographs given to us by older residents of Penketh and Great Sankey. This exhibition will run until the end of Jubilee weekend.

Now we would like to know about the lives and hopes for the future of our younger residents and are running a competition open to anyone under 16. We will give prizes to three winners (KS1, 2 & 3).

Students can enter the competition:

- by filling in one of the templates available later this week from the library.
- by creating their own illustrated poster, cartoon strip, poem or story to show what life is like now and what they would like to be doing in the years ahead. Closing date for entries (to be handed in at the library) is Saturday 11th June.

70 years in Penketh and Great Sankey



Just imagine if the Queen came to Penketh...

She could admire your pictures



and read all of your memories celebrating her Platinum Jubilee



On display in Penketh Library until Saturday June 4th

CLASS CHANGES—FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS SO FAR

- **Support for children's learning**

Although the number of classes and therefore number of teachers is reducing, there are minimal changes in terms of our Teaching Assistants. Support for children with an EHCP will continue as outlined in their plan. Support for other children will also continue, and because there are fewer classes, children should benefit from a greater level of support as staff will not be split between as many classes, and interventions which sometimes have to be repeated across classes can now be organised as one group. Changes to class organisation will not compromise intervention groups or individual support.

- **Support for children to be ready for the changes**

Transition activities will take place during July as is always the case so that children can meet the staff who will be working with them next year and come together as the mixed classes. Due to the changes being implemented, there will be an even stronger focus on transition activities to support children to get used to the new arrangements during next half term.

- **Curriculum organisation**

Our curriculum for English and Maths is cyclical in design so that throughout a year, and across year groups, children revisit key learning and concepts but at an increasingly challenging level. Our staff are already skilled in differentiating learning to meet the needs of all children in the class and the mixed classes will be an extension of this. Concepts across year groups more often than not will link and so can be taught at the same time, but at differing levels of complexity. Where there are objectives which do not progress across the year groups, these will be managed through separate teaching.

Staff are now working on the wider curriculum to ensure continuity and progression across all areas of learning under the new arrangements, and this will be shared with you before the end of term. RSE teaching will be separated for the different year groups so that children are only taught age-appropriate content.

- **Which staff will be with each class?**

This cannot be confirmed yet, but information will be shared as soon as staffing has been finalised. Prior to this announcement, a staffing restructure has been taking place, dictated by legal HR processes. This has set out the timeline with regards to sharing information with families.

- **Further information for parents and carers**

As part of transition activities, each class teacher will hold a "Meet the Teacher" session before we finish for the summer instead of in September, when this event has taken place in the past. At this meeting we will share curriculum information and answer any further questions that you might still have.

- **Class sizes**

In Reception and Key Stage 1, the statutory class size limit is 30. In Key Stage 2, there is no statutory limit on class size, however Governors have agreed a limit of 32.

- **Future intakes**

It is hoped that birth rate will not remain as low as it is currently, and that this combined with housing developments will positively impact on Reception intake numbers in the future. However the current structure has been set up to sustain smaller class numbers for as long as necessary. This will remain under review so that if numbers allow, we can return to single classes.

- **Will classes be split every year?**

For as long as necessary, classes will remain mixed. However splitting classes is only necessary because our class sizes currently vary quite significantly. Splitting of classes will not be necessary once we can mix 2 classes together without exceeding the limits outlined above.

Please be assured that mixed cohorts are not unusual and this type of class organisation works very successfully in other schools. Those of you who have older children who attended St Vincent's will remember that mixed classes were actually in place here at St Vincent's until fairly recently, so many staff already have significant experience of teaching mixed age groups already.

Thank you for your supportive responses to these changes.