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6th September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome. I hope that you have all had a happy and safe holiday. A very warm welcome to all our new pupils and their families, we hope that they all settle quickly into school life and enjoy their time at St. Vincent's. Please remember that school starts at 8.35 a.m. and ensure that your child is on time so that lessons can commence promptly.

Class Masses – Over the course of the year the children will celebrate a class mass in church with Father Brindle and the Parish Community. You are very welcome to attend this mass and support your child. I would like to ask that you respect the Church as an important place of worship by not arriving with food and drink and refrain from taking any photographs of the children during mass.

Dinner Money – This has increased to £2.20 per day, £11.00 per week for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Please send the money into school on the first day of the week. There is no meal charge for children in Years R, 1 and 2 under the Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme. However, if you think your child may qualify for free school meals (pupil premium funding), I would be grateful if you would still complete an application form as this funding entitles your child to access further funding, e.g. free trips. Thank you.

Holidays – I would like to remind parents that the law gives no entitlement to parents to take their children on holiday during term time. As head teacher I do not have the authority in law to authorise absences for holidays or related activities, unless there are 'exceptional' circumstances. I am not expected to class any term time holiday as 'exceptional'. This being the case, any requests for term time holidays will be declined and any absences will be recorded as unauthorised.

Health & Safety – The health and safety of the children at St Vincent's is of the highest importance and therefore I ask parents not to enter the school building unless it is to visit the school office. If you need to speak to your child's teacher a member of the office staff will see if they are available, if not a message will be passed on or an appointment made for a later date. I would like to ask you to consider the safety of the children when you collect and drop off at school, particularly on the Church Car Park. Please do not park in the designated disabled bays, at any time, unless you have a 'blue badge'.

Before and After School Care – This is open from 7.45 a.m. in the morning and from 3.15 p.m. to 5.15 every evening. The charges have not been increased and remain as; £2.00 per before care session and £1.50 per half hour per after care session. However, a discount of 20% on bills over £30 will no longer be given. Children not be left unsupervised in the school playground before or after school. Please use the door at the top of the steps, off the main playground to access this facility and advise the school office if there is anyone specific who is not authorised to collect your child.

Year 6 SATs will take place week commencing Monday, 14th May 2018 and the Year 1 Phonics Screen Check will take place week beginning Monday, 11th June. Please ensure your child is present in school during these important dates.

Addresses/Telephone Numbers - Please remember to inform school if you have changed your address and/or phone number (including mobiles).

E-mail alerts – Please register for e-mail alerts on our new website and use our Facebook page and OurSchoolsApp to keep up to date with details of school activities and events.



This ½ term we will be inviting parents from each year group to a short 30 minute presentation by the class teachers which will include; information about the curriculum, routines, rewards, sanctions, homework, etc. on the following dates;

- Tuesday, 12th September Year 1 at 6.00 p.m. and Year 2 at 6.30 p.m. in the Year 6 Classrooms
- Thursday, 14th September Year 4 at 6.00 p.m. and Year 5 at 6.30 p.m. in the Year 6 Classrooms
- Tuesday, 19th September Reception at 6.00 p.m. in the School Hall
- Monday, 25th September Year 6 at 6.00 p.m. in the School Hall, including information about Robinwood.

The date of the Year 3 and the Sacramental Programme meeting has not yet been decided, you will be advised as soon as this has been done.

Later in the term there will be a parents' evening on Thursday, 19th October. This will be an opportunity for you to find out how your child has settled into his/her new class. Information on how to book your 5 minute time slot will be provided nearer the time.

Dates for Your Diary

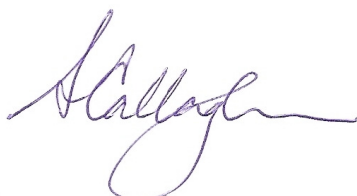
- Tuesday, 26th September Year 5 Trip to Jodrell Bank
- Thursday, 28th September Whole School Photographs
- 2nd to 4th October Year 6 Robinwood Trip
- Friday, 13th October Year 6 trip to Crucial Crew
- Thursday, 19th October Parents' Evening
- Friday, 20th October School Closes for Half Term.

Holiday Pattern 2016/17

SCHOOL STARTS	HALF-TERM	SCHOOL CLOSES
Wednesday 6 th September 2017	Monday 23 rd October 2017 to Friday 27 th October 2017	Wednesday 20 th December 2017
Thursday 4 th January 2018	Monday 12 th February 2018 to Friday 16 th February 2018	Wednesday 28 th March 2018
Monday 9 th April 2018	Monday 28 th May 2018 to Friday 8 th June 2018 (Bank holiday - Monday 7 th May)	Friday 20 th July 2018

Finally, I would like to wish everybody a successful and enjoyable school year.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. S. Callaghan
Head Teacher

