

ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs A Harrop MEd NPQEL
Orchard Road
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Friday 9 December 2022

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

ADVENT

Third Sunday of Advent

Today's reading
Matthew 11:2-11

In today's reading we hear how John the Baptist wanted to check that Jesus was the person for whom he has been waiting. Jesus says he has come to heal the sick and bring good news to the poor. We can't heal the sick as Jesus did, but we can bring good news to people. How will you spread good news today?

Today's prayer
Generous God,
We thank you for all the good things that you have given us.
Help us to follow the example of Jesus,
to care for others
and to bring good news to people who are poor.
Amen

Did you know today is
Gaudete Sunday?
We light the pink candle,
representing joy.
How could you bring joy
to others this Advent?

RECEPTION NATIVITY AND YEAR 4 PLAY



This week we enjoyed the Reception Nativity and Year 4 Christmas performance. The children retold the Christmas story and sang so well. Thank you to the staff for all of the work that went into making them so very special and to you as parents for all of your support.

Information on how to purchase a download of the recording will be available next week.



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KEY STAGE TWO ADVENT SERVICE



We are looking forward to the Key Stage Two Advent Service on Wednesday 14 December. The service will start at 6:30pm at St Vincent's Church. As this is a Key Stage Two service, all children in Years 3,4,5 and 6 should attend in full school uniform. This is always a very special service and we look forward to sharing this special time with you. At the end of the service we will be collecting for Francis House Children's Hospice as part of our Advent charitable work.

TRAFFORD PUBLIC HEALTH ADVICE

Below is a reminder about the information sent from Public Health earlier this week.

Scarlet fever is caused by bacteria called group A streptococci. In very rare occasions, the bacteria can cause an illness called invasive Group A strep (iGAS), which can lead to more serious illness. Whilst still very uncommon, there has been an increase in invasive Group A strep cases this year, particularly in children under 10.

Please be aware of the symptoms to look out for in your child:

Symptoms of scarlet fever

- sore throat
- headache
- fever
- fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually, but will have a sandpapery feel (please see example images)



Who to contact?

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if you suspect your child has scarlet fever, early treatment of scarlet fever with antibiotics is important to reduce the risk of complications, such as pneumonia or a bloodstream infection such as iGAS.

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If your child has scarlet fever, **keep them at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment** to avoid spreading the infection to others.

If you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other [signs of dehydration](#)
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, [tongue or lips are blue](#)
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

Infection prevention

Bacteria which cause scarlet fever can be spread by coughing, sneezing, through normal breathing, through saliva and oral secretions, and by touching or being in direct contact with an infected person. We can all take some simple steps to help reduce the incidence and transmission of any infectious disease:

Maintain good ventilation: allowing fresh outdoor air inside where possible, helping to carry away infectious droplets that may have been coughed, sneezed or breathed out. If the temperature is extremely cold, open windows for a few minutes every hour to encourage the fresh air flow.

Observe good respiratory hygiene: carry tissues to catch coughs and sneezes or use the inside of the elbow rather than hands, which may touch surfaces that others touch.

Make sure your child is fully vaccinated: vaccinations are the most effective way we can protect ourselves and our children against ill health, and every year they prevent up to three million deaths worldwide. Vaccines protect you, your child, your family, and the community from serious and potentially deadly diseases. More information nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/

Wash our hands effectively, and frequently: washing all areas of your hands well for 20 to 30 seconds with soap and water, and following the 'WET, SOAP, WASH, RINSE, DRY' order will help to remove dirt, viruses and bacteria and helps to prevent the spread of infection.



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Over the past two years, we have followed Covid-19 precautions, this has helped prevent the spread of many infections, however as people begin to mix in larger groups, we may see increases in other childhood illnesses. More information nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/

MUSIC MARK



We are delighted to announce that St Vincent's has been reaccredited as a Music Mark School. This award demonstrates that St Vincent's understand the value of a broad and balanced curriculum and offers opportunities for all our pupils to explore and discover the joys of Music. Being a Music Mark school, shows that at St Vincent's, we are committed to continually developing and enhancing our curriculum to nurture and develop the skills and talents of our pupils.

HAVE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGED?

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are offered a free and healthy school lunch, known as Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) whether they are eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) or not. Even if your child receives UFSM, it is still important for the school to know whether eligibility exists for FSM as this may lead to additional school funding. Children in school years 3 to 6 will be offered a free lunch if they meet certain criteria for FSM.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals; your child is eligible for free school meals if you are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guaranteed part of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as your annual gross income is £16,190 or less and you don't get Working Tax Credit)
- Working Tax Credit run-off after you come off Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit that you applied for on, or after, 1 April 2018 (as long as your household income is less than £7,400 a year after tax, not including any benefits)

Registering for Free School Meals could also raise an extra **£1,320** in Pupil Premium for your child's school to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities. This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above. Please contact the school office in confidence if you believe you may be eligible.



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PTA RAFFLE



The PTA Christmas raffle is here with some incredible prizes! The more tickets you buy, the more chance you have of snagging some pre-Christmas goodies! All money made goes to the Forest school for our children so it's a win/win all round!

Please share with all family and friends - anyone can enter! The raffle is being drawn on Saturday 17th December.

<https://bit.ly/3VjKGi1> (or click on the link on the poster attached)

DATES LIST

DAY	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Wednesday	14 December	KS2 Advent Service 6:30pm	St Vincent's Church
Thursday	15 December	KS2 Class Assembly: Led by Y5 Mrs Maguire's class	Junior department hall
Thursday	15 December	SVP Mini Vinnie celebration	Westleigh
Thursday	19 December	Christmas Pantomime all classes	-
Tuesday	20 December	School Closes	-

ATTENDANCE



Please note we do not authorise holidays in term time. Attendance figures for previous week.



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Attendance Percentages	
Highest infant class attendance	Y1 Mrs Hutton's and Y1 Mrs Dreniw's classes 98%
Highest junior class attendance	Y5 Mrs Maguire's class 98.67%
Overall school attendance	93.55%

We offer an open door to parents. If you have any questions about school life, please liaise with your class teacher. Mrs Farrell (infant department deputy head), Mrs Sutton (junior department deputy head), and I are also available to work in partnership with you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harrop

Headteacher

