

Focus on home learning - TEAMS



We have now gone live with our online learning platform through Microsoft Teams. We will use Teams to share the weekly Home Learning Grid and accompanying resources. We will also be offering some live sessions. Further details of this will be shared by your class teacher and will be noted on your child's weekly Home Learning Grid. Thank you so much for all the positive comments – it has really cheered the staff up to know you appreciate how hard they are working.

On Teams your child will have contact with their peer group, class teachers and teaching assistants. It is important that we maintain the high expectations we have in school whilst they are working at home both in terms of content and presentation and excellent behaviour on live lessons. You will find the Home Learning Grids stipulate which days to teach which subject. Please try to stick to this as far as possible to ensure coverage is the same for all.

Also remember to log into all the apps too. Any difficulties with passwords please email your child's class teacher



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*Believe, Trust and Be Ready
"That they may have life, and to
the full" John 10:10*

Gospel Contemplations by Mrs Holland

The Gospel this week talks of the baptism of Jesus. As John the Baptist says: 'I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.' This reading shows us both the human nature of Jesus and the divine nature. While submerged in the depths of the water, Jesus entered into the depths of His own humanity whereby He understands what it is to feel joy, sorrow, a desire to help others, just as we do. And yet, by the heavens ripping open and God speaking to Him and sending the Holy Spirit, we are reminded of His divinity. Here, we see the Holy Trinity present at the sacrament of Baptism just as it should be. Once again, we find ourselves in a time of further uncertainty as we enter another lockdown. This experience is different for all of us and will be different from previous times too. We need to take time to feel God's presence in order to help guide us through and remember that, no matter how difficult things may be at the moment, we always have our faith in God.



Behaviour Awards

Starting next week class teachers will be picking two people for merit awards.

Merit Award – Super work and effort in a particular area of the Curriculum.



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a week!!! On Monday all staff had prepared for teaching in school. Then, at 8pm Monday night, everything changed. Our dedicated staff have been amazing and so have you and your children. We went live with our TEAMS platform on Wednesday evening and by Thursday morning most of Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children had logged on and had a live face to face session with their class teacher. Year 1 also had a live check in today with Year 2 and Reception planned for next week.

Thank you for supporting us by logging on to TEAMS and Year 3, 5 and 6 parents coming into school to pick up packs of resources. Parents in Years 4, 2, 1 and Reception will be contacted to come into school next week to collect what they will need.

As a school, St. Vincent's remains open for vulnerable and keyworker children and we will continue to teach in school the home learning tasks set on the website. **If you are a keyworker and require a place in the future please email school with at least 48 hours' notice from today.** Please email Mrs Watson at admin@stvincents.cheshire.sch.uk Please stipulate the days and also send in proof of critical work status. The children will be mixing in key stage bubbles.

Drop off/ pick up time for Key worker and vulnerable children who have emailed into school are as follows:-

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Start Time	8.50 Reception area	8.55 Reception area	8.50 Infant door	8.55 Junior door	8.50 Junior door	8.55 Year 5/6 door	8.50 Year 5/6 door
Home Time	3.10 Reception area	3.15 Reception area	3.10 Infant door	3.15 Junior door	3.10 Junior door	3.15 Year 5/6 door	3.10 Year 5/6 door

All children who have to attend school need to be in school uniform, with a named water bottle and outdoor PE kit. Mrs Freeman will be in school and therefore the Infants will get a universal free school meal and juniors can purchase cooked meals via ParentPay.

God Bless,

Miss Groarke and everyone at St. Vincent's



Well- being support

It's understandable for children and adults to feel concerned or anxious about this virus and it is natural for parents to want to support and protect their children. You might do this in many different ways – giving them a hug, playing a game or having a chat. The most important thing is for your child to know that you are there for them and ready to help them if things get hard. We have attached tips from Young Minds to help support your child at this time.

https://youngminds.org.uk/media/3702/how-to-support-your-child_corona.pdf

Staying safe online

I would encourage you all to continue to have discussions and put boundaries in place about the use of technology in the home. We are now all using it daily and going on live meetings. It is easier to put in boundaries when your child is in Primary School as it gets harder when they become teenagers. It is really important to have regular discussions around internet safety as it changes so quickly with new apps and crazes appearing all the time. The information on our school website is very useful and, as a parent myself, I would encourage you to look at it.

<http://www.stvincentsknutsford.co.uk/page/e-safety-/29365>

SIM cards

We have been given some Vodafone SIM Cards which have 30GB of data on them for 90 days from activation, which we are offering to children whose parents think this will be of benefit to their child. The SIM cards can be used in laptops, tablets and smart phones and cannot be used to make calls/send texts. If you would like one of the SIM cards, please let Mrs Watson know.

Printed Copies of Home Learning tasks

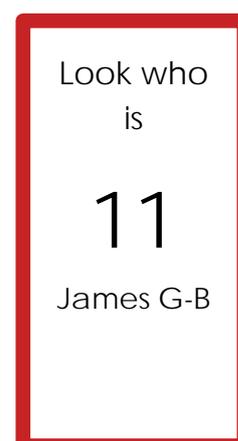
If you require a hard copy of the online Home Learning tasks which have been set for your child, please email the class teacher and we will have them ready for you to collect from the school office by 12 noon on the Monday.

Technology at home

We have a limited number of laptops and tablets in schools which we can lend out to help children and families access remote education during coronavirus (COVID-19). Please let me know by 12.30 pm on Monday 11th January if you would like a device for home, and we will do our utmost to organise this for you in the coming days.

Birthday Wishes!

“Happy Birthday” to the following children:-



Pupil Premium Funding/Free School Meal entitlement

All children in Reception class, Y1 and Y2 are entitled to a free school meal under current Government policy; this is known as Universal Free School Meals. However, you may be entitled to Income Related Free School Meals if you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit. If this is the case, please apply for this even if your child is in Reception or Key Stage 1. The school can then claim additional funding for resources, known as Pupil Premium, which can be used to help your child when they are in school. The financial benefit of Pupil Premium will remain with your child throughout their school years. Phone 0300123 5012 for further information and help or apply online: https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/free_school_meals.aspx or contact Mrs Watson in the school office.

Carol Concert

Children from every year group pre-recorded a traditional Christmas hymn for our carol service before Christmas. The recorded video of your child's class is now on TEAMS in files - Christmas 2020. Thank you for the £174 donated for our Christmas charities via ParentPay which we will be split between Cafod and Caritas Covid-19 Crisis Fund.

Skipping

Coach Dave is going to be setting skipping challenges for all children. Every child was gifted a skipping rope for Christmas and we would like you to see what sort of games and challenges you can do. How many skips forward in a minute can you do? How many backward skips in a minute? What rhymes can you learn to skip to? Please record results in Reception and Year 1 via tapestry and for Year 2 – 6 send in via email to admin@stvincents.cheshire.sch.uk

Reception 2021 Applications

Please note that the closing date to make an application for a child to start primary school in September 2021 is Friday 15th January 2021. Application can be made at <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/apply-for-september-2021-school-place.aspx>

Father David and St. Vincent's Church

Church is open for masses: - Tuesday to Friday – 9:30 am, Saturday – 5:30 pm and Sunday – 9:00 am and 11:00 am. It is still restricted on numbers so please book before attending Church. <https://stvincentsknutsford.org/>

Support at home?

Please remember if you need any financial/food support at this time please email or call me. I can make referrals for support to The Welcome, our SVP at church and Caritas charity so if you are struggling please do come and see me.

Also, 'We Are Knutsford' are here to help out local families who may have been impacted financially from the pandemic. <https://weareknutsford.org/services>

Cheshire East Council's Homechoice and Prevention Team also have staff available to deal with homelessness prevention; the officers can give advice to families on a variety of issues e.g. concerns relating to rent and mortgage arrears, debt and the fear of losing their home. Early intervention is something they encourage. They have leaflets and a website. For a referral into appropriate advice and support

Phone: 0300 123 5017 Email: cheshirehomechoice@cheshireeast.gov.uk