



St. John Vianney School

Steps to Independence & Education for Life

Weekly News

27/11/2020



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Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/ Carers,



It has been great this week to have all the class teams back in school after periods of self isolation. We now only have a small group of pupils who are individually self isolating and we hope that this trend can continue right through to the end of term on December 18th. The children have continued to support staff in managing daily routines across the site and keeping everyone safe, which is really pleasing. I do hope you and your families remain safe at home too.

Early next week we welcome the start of advent; an opportunity for us all to look forward to the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Advent is the time of preparation and we will be working with the children to prepare them physically and spiritually and to have a real grasp of the true meaning of Christmas. This year the Christmas celebration may certainly be different than previous years, however we intend to mark the celebrations with a series of activities and events in school so that children really look forward to the opportunities that Christmas will bring this year.

Our Advent activities began on Friday afternoon with class teams preparing decorations for their classrooms. It was great to see all the children work positively together to decorate their classrooms and I'm sure this will help prepare the mood for Advent over the next few weeks.

We are continuing to daily update our Twitter feed and I would recommend that parents with access to Twitter follow the school to see the range and diversity of activities that are on offer on any given day at school. Our twitter feed is **@StJohnVianneySc**

I hope you have a great weekend.

Best wishes

Mr A Moloney



Stars of the Week



Just some of our
'Stars of the Week'
from last week. Well
done!



Literacy



As we move into the season of Advent a fantastic way to spread the joy of literacy is through a daily read, as part of your advent tradition. Along with opening the window on a calendar and eating a chocolate treat, reading a poem or short story is a great way to get our children Christmas ready! Wrapping the books as a surprise is a fantastic way to bring a touch of excitement to the process. To help with this, I will be posting links on my school Twitter account '@SJVMiss' over the Advent season with recommended ideas for reading, listening and watching. Have a great weekend. **Miss Nesbitt**



Our Catholic School

Our focus this week in SJV is this quote from Pope Francis;-‘The Gospel invites us to be open to others, to share with the poor. Let us learn to live with kindness. Let us this week seek out opportunities to show the very best of us in our kindness to others. SJV is full of kindness and kind acts, but we are doing our best to be extra kind.

This week Father Desmond said and recorded a staff Mass for SJV which he does each week. Staff send in intentions in every week and knowing they will be prayed for really helps staff wellbeing. Father Desmond also recorded a service for the Holy Souls connected to SJV Class teams. Staff will watch with their classes at an appropriate time for them. You can access the service on SJV’s Youtube channel .

The chaplaincy team met in their bubbles and continued to work on rewriting and bringing up to date the chaplaincy prayer. We started to look forward to Advent and the themes of Advent (Joy, Hope, Peace and Love). We had the ideas of telling jokes, looking at all the positives of 2020, doing a kind act every day. The team are looking at ways we can spread these throughout SJV during the run up to Christmas.

Within RE we continued to look at month of the Holy Souls and to look at the lives of the Saints. We have made a prayer tree and hearts for those we wish to remember and turned our Saint into superheroes! We are looking at which Saints we admire and how we could be like them. **Mrs Garfin**



NOVEMBER
THE MONTH OF ALL SOULS

A Day in the life of... Shea

What I've been doing this week: I have been doing work in various subjects like English, Science and lots of others. I also have a sore toe this week!

What is the best thing about being in SJV? My teachers! They have been very good with me helping me to catch up on work I have missed by being off school with my sore toe.

It would be even better if... We were allowed to have more time on the computers at school.

Hopes and dreams for the future: Our class Christmas video is coming up soon, so hopefully I can play 'Pickles 2'!

Introducing... Shanane

Role in School: TA in Class 6

What I've been doing this week: This week we have been reading 'Little Red Riding Hood' and relating how they feel in the story with the 'Zones of Regulation'. We have also been on a nature hunt in the local park.

What is best about being in SJV? Working in Class 6, both the staff and the pupils are amazing!

It would be even better if... We had a sensory gym, the students would get so much out of it!





Hopes and dreams for the future: To continue to work at SJV for many years to come, it's just the best.

The ZONES of Regulation®

The Zones of Regulation is a curriculum, created to teach self-regulation and emotional control.

We have been learning about the zones in school.

What are the ZONES?

| BLUE ZONE | GREEN ZONE | YELLOW ZONE | RED ZONE |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly | Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn | Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control | Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control |

Can you name the zones in the faces of these celebrities?



Answers can be found somewhere on this newsletter

Odd Socks Day

Last weeks' Odd Socks Day, which we held to mark the end of Anti-Bullying Week was great again. A big thank-you to all those wearing crazy socks around school. It was great to see such a colourful celebration of individuality and that we all have the right to be who we are. It was also heart-warming to hear so many pupils say so many important messages about bullying and how we all need to work together to prevent or stop it. This is my favourite quote from a KS4 pupil, "'Don't just stand there if you see someone being bullied, go and help, do the right thing, tell the bully to stop or tell a teacher.'" **Ms Whiting**



Class 5

'We have been learning about Mother Teresa's life in RE, her qualities and talents. This week we have got creative and we made our own Mother Teresa's. I love how every single one is different!' **Ms Mollard**



Mindful Minute

Happy Friday everyone!

This week's Mindful Minute is focused around nature, as the leaves have changed colour and fallen from the trees, once beautiful views have become bare and can seem joyless.

Why not grow something in your own home to bring back some colour and life, in my class this week we have planted some herbs, which can be sown indoors all year round. This has given the pupils a sense of responsibility and purpose, and once they have grown, we can try them and see how they taste! **Miss Walsh**



Class 6

Class 6 worked really hard during their art lesson this week creating some lovely woodland pictures from the story Little Red Riding Hood. **Miss Shaw**



Class 10

Winter's coming but that hasn't stopped us from enjoying the fresh air. We managed to get out in the garden to have some social time and do a bit of Drama. You may remember that I have a most talented class of performers. We had great fun practicing our funny walks!

The boys who are doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award were lucky enough to get a double dose of fresh air, when they went out for some woodland cycling and a bit of a hike. And while they were doing that, we taught about Arthur Conan Doyle, the genius who created Sherlock Holmes. We enjoyed watching one of his short films; Scandal in Bohemia. **Ms Whiting**

All staff use Signalong and this week we are learning how to sign "Blue"

Blue



Forefinger traces veins on inside wrist.

ANSWERS

Marcus Rashford – BLUE
Taylor Swift – YELLOW/GREEN
Donald Trump – RED
Kevin De Bruyne – RED/YELLOW
Idris Elba – GREEN

Class 5 Kindness



'On Monday Mr Moloney challenged us to focus on Acts of Kindness this week. Evie's job, giving out breakfast, has meant she has been very kind to her friends. Evie has chosen to give the one chocolate milkshake to her friends each day this week, even though the chocolate milkshake is her favourite!' **Ms Mollard.**

Last Chance to Register

FREE

IPAD training

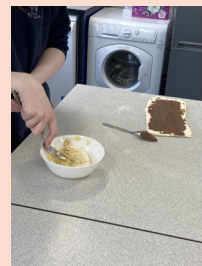
**How to register—open the email you have received from school
- click on the attachment, follow the instructions via Family Funds link.**

If you need any further information please ring school and ask to speak to

Mrs Griffin

Class 7 in the kitchen!

Class 7 have enjoyed making chocolate and banana pinwheels in Food Tech this week. Developing independence and knowledge of different foods and cooking. They smelled and tasted delicious! **Miss Walsh**



Class 4 at the Farm



Class 4 enjoyed working in teams to complete an Autumn scavenger hunt at the farm this week! We collected and named different types of leaves, completed our usual jobs of feeding the goats and the hens and even had time to make a little bouquet of flowers! **Miss Walsh**





14 WAYS TO BE KIND ONLINE

Showing kindness online can mean so much to someone else. It is a choice we can all make that helps others, puts people's needs before our own and which can generate feelings of empathy and compassion. Small gestures can have a large impact and often one act of kindness can lead to more, making the world a happier and more positive place. That's why we've created this guide to suggest a few simple 'acts of kindness online' that can benefit people's mental health, support their wellbeing and encourage a more positive approach to engaging online.



1. BE POSITIVE

Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten up someone else's day.



Sometimes a friend or family member might post a question online or ask for help with something they can't do themselves. If you know the answer or are able to offer help, provide support and send a response. Something that may be easy for you might be difficult for someone else.



If somebody you know has done something good or shown kindness themselves, thank them for it. It costs nothing and showing them that you appreciate it means so much.

4. SHARE FUNNY VIDEOS OR IMAGES WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY

We often come across funny videos or images online that make us laugh and then we move on. If you found it funny, your friends and family might too. It could help someone smile who may be having a bad day.



5. LIKE, LOVE & CELEBRATE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, like it, love it or celebrate it! It's a small gesture but could mean a lot.

6. VIDEO CALL YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY

It can be easy to be consumed by daily routine. Using apps like Zoom, FaceTime or WhatsApp are great for connecting with others far away and shows you're thinking of them even though you can't physically meet them in person.



7. TELL SOMEONE YOU'RE THINKING OF THEM

We can't always tell how people are feeling online and just dropping somebody a message to ask if they're ok or that you're thinking of them could literally make their day.

8. SHARE POSITIVE POSTS

If you see something online that inspires you, share it with people you know. An inspirational quote, a beautiful photo or a motivational video can lift spirits, improve self-esteem and help make people feel better about themselves.



9. HOST AN ONLINE QUIZ

Video conferencing apps are a great way to get friends and family together. If you know someone who is feeling lonely, host an online quiz and invite them to join in. It could really cheer them up.

10. THINK BEFORE YOU COMMENT

Sometimes thinking before you act can be just as significant as acting in the first place. Showing thought before you comment could stop you posting something hurtful, offensive or negative. It's always better to post positively or post nothing at all.



11. BE COMPASSIONATE & UNDERSTANDING

Being empathetic towards others and their situation is often an act of kindness and selflessness that gets overlooked. If you notice someone who is upset, drop them a message and offer to listen.



12. CONNECT FRIENDS & FAMILY WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS

You may know two people amongst your friends and family who you trust and know well who have similar interests and likes. Introducing them can be a great way for them to make new friends but remember to always ask their permission first.



13. RECOMMEND SOMETHING YOU ENJOY DOING TO OTHERS

If you enjoy doing something online, such as playing a game, or if you've found a great learning resource, share it with others. Even if you've watched a good film, letting others know can be an act of generosity that brings them excitement or pleasure at a time when they might need it the most.



14. PRAISE OTHERS FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

Sometimes your friends or family might post something online that they're proud to have done. It might be an exam they've passed, learning a new skill or just completing a task. Either way, it's always kind to recognise hard work and effort through praise and celebration.



Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.

