



St. John Vianney School

Steps to Independence & Education for Life

Weekly News

12/03/2021



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Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I do hope you and your families are keeping well.



This week pupils nationally have been welcomed back into their schools after a 9 week 'lockdown'. This is a very positive sign that we are moving, nationally, towards a recovery from the pandemic and we now hope that we are able to safely move through the Government 'road-map' of reduced restrictions in the forthcoming weeks. St John Vianney has really benefited from being open throughout this period of time and this has ensured our children have continued, since last September, to be offered 'full-time' school provision, whilst other children have had to stay at home. The routines we have been able to establish have really helped our

children and young people and we have seen the benefits in the developmental progress they have continued to make.

This week we have had more children return to school and we are really pleased with the transition they have made from home learning to the daily routines of school. It is very pleasing that we are averaging 85% attendance at school this week. Can I remind you please that the school is a very safe place for all pupils (and staff) to attend and reiterate the importance of daily attendance in supporting pupils' wider learning and progress in school.

We are currently collating data from class teachers to share with you the progress achievements our children and young people have made in lessons. Our second interim progress report will be ready to send home in the final week of this term (WB 29th March). We will follow up this report with a Parents' Evening, which we will undertake 'virtually' on Wednesday 21st April. Parents will have the opportunity at this point to discuss the progress being made by their child in a face-to-face appointment with the class teacher and team. We will create a 10 minute appointment schedule for each parent and send you an invite to an individual appointment, which you will be able to access through your email. Whilst we would like to physically invite you into school, the restriction on large group meetings are still in place and virtual parents evening, despite not being ideal, have been used very successfully with other schools. We will send you details of the Parents' Evening in due course.

Can I remind you please that the school will close for the two week Easter break on **Thursday April 1st at 3.15pm** and will reopen for the summer term on **Monday 19th April 2021 at 9.00am**.

Very best wishes for the weekend,

Mr A Moloney



Literacy

I hope everyone has received their £1 tokens for World Book Day from last week and have managed to use them towards a new book! It would be great if children could share with us the books they have received. March is a very literacy focused month and next week is Shakespeare week along with World Story Telling Day and World Poetry day! That's a lot to keep us busy here at SJV! The theme for this year's Shakespeare week is wellbeing and it will be a great opportunity in school to look at how some different characters dealt with their well-being and emotions and what we can learn from this.

Pupils across the school are enjoying reading their new books that have been purchased for them. Children got to choose two books that they would like to read for pleasure. We used Barrington Stoke as they publish fantastic age-appropriate books that are at a level that is just right for our pupils and they have Dyslexia friendly typeface and page colour! Some Pupils will be sharing their reviews with you very soon.

Have a great weekend. **Miss Nesbitt**

Our Catholic School

Our prayer and election focus this week from Pope Francis reminds us on the importance of enthusiasm in all we do, including prayer. St Catherine of Siena said '**If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world ablaze**'.

Enthusiasm is infectious, our target this week in SJV is try to ensure our enthusiasm rubs off on others this week! This quote really struck a chord with me as I am definitely a half full kind of person, I love to see the positive side of everything. I think if you tackle things with enthusiasm (even the things you don't want to do) life is better, I think complaining is wasted and negative emotions, we need to do as Pope Francis said and fast from such things. Our kind act chosen by the Chaplaincy team this week links into this, follow instructions without complaining!

Within our Catholic school, different classes are busy raising money in lots of different ways from sponsored walks, to portraits and raffles; it's all happening at SJV.

We continue to do our acts of kindness and recognise staff and students being good, it was lovely to send an email to lots of different staff to say a student thought that much of them in SJV, that they wrote an act of kindness about them.

Our Chaplaincy teams are meeting to continue our Lenten drive on prayer, giving and fasting. It is wonderful to see the learners stepping up and leading on such important matters, it means so much more.

Within RE this week, we have looked at the different traditions surrounding Lent and the origins of Mothering Sunday and how we all should keep Mary in our thoughts and prayers at this time. We explored how Mothering Sunday has origins in religion and lots of students did not know how Mother's Day started. We learned that traditionally, it was a day when children who had gone to work as domestic servants were given a day off to visit their mother and their mother (home) Church. Hence the name Mothering Sunday. I hope that we celebrate this weekend with all the parents and carers who have the qualities to nurture and sustain our pupils. **Mrs Garfin.**



Follow instructions
without complaining.

"Be who God
meant you to be
and you will set
the world on fire."

-St. Catherine of Siena



Stars of the Week



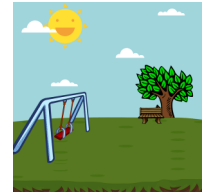
Just some of our Stars
of the week from last
week.

Well done everyone!!





Forest School



I had a lovely day at Forest School with Classes 3 & 4 from the Purple hub last week. I can't wait to hear about the new adventures they get up to each week. What a fantastic opportunity!
Miss Hunter.



Class 11

Class 11 have enjoyed the good weather when cycling in the park! Well done boys! **Mr Donovan**



Mindful Minute



EMERGENCY CARE WALL

for sadness

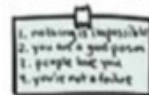


for loneliness



best friend's phone #

for self-doubt



list of reasons why you can

for anger



calming music

for worry



comfort blanket

for other



stress ball

fav. books



It is a key word sign-supported communication system based on British Sign Language. All staff use Signalong and this week we are learning how to sign "Grandma"

Class 4 appeal

Class 4 are currently collecting donations for Manchester South Central Food Bank. Some of the items they are currently in need of are: Reading books, Arts and Crafts supplies, Cereal, Biscuits, Tinned fruit, sweetcorn, potatoes, tomatoes, tuna, soup, UHT Milk, Teabags, Cordial, Crackers, Pasta Sauce, Mayonnaise, Sugar, Jam.

Please send any donations into school by Friday 19/03/2021.

GRANDMA



Make letter shape "G", then make letter shape "M" twice.



7 Top Tips for Supporting Children to EXPRESS THEMSELVES SAFELY ONLINE

The past year has left many children feeling uncertain and worried. So Children's Mental Health Week 2021 has adopted the theme of 'express yourself'. It's not necessarily about being the best – but instead encouraging young people to relish the joy of being 'in the moment' and loving what they do. So whether they're into music, art, photography, film, drama or dance, here are our top tips for helping your child to express themselves safely online.

1 Celebrate their Identity

Celebrating who children are and reminding them of their uniqueness has a huge impact on their confidence and self-esteem. This week, remind them of what you love about them. You could revisit some photos and videos on your phone or computer of special times you've shared. Chat about the importance of finding time to do what they love: underline that it's an important part of who they are.

2 Promote Their Passions

It's different for all of us, but every child has something which ignites their passions and brings them joy. Perhaps they love music and you could introduce them to a music-making app? Or if they enjoy taking photos or making videos, use this week to set a photography or video competition at home, with some fun categories.

3 Support Their Interests

Some children seem to know instinctively what interests them and what they enjoy doing; others can be less decisive about hobbies. Spend some time this week sharing their interests and doing something connected to it together. You could make a short Lego film to post on your Instagram, a vlog about baking that you share with relatives, or just play with them on their favourite video game.

4 Help Them Help Others

Some children love to express themselves through activities which help others. Perhaps your local area's Facebook group has a community project that your family could get involved with – even as a one-off; it doesn't have to be a long-term commitment. Depending on your child's age, you could introduce them to online fundraising (such as sites like JustGiving, for example) and how it can make a difference to less fortunate people.

5 Enable Emotional Expression

Children sometimes need help in articulating how they're feeling and in beginning to understand how to manage their emotions. A safe, healthy way for your child to explore their feelings is to let them conduct an activity – like listening to a story, or creating some art – and discuss with them afterwards how it made them feel. There are lots of stories available on YouTube, while Audible is streaming children's audiobooks free of charge while schools are closed. YouTube also has a plethora of fun art tutorials (if you log in on an adult's account, remember to adjust your settings first to block inappropriate content and stop potentially unsuitable material auto-playing).

6 Let Them Stay Connected

The online world is a fantastic space for staying in contact with those who we can't be with right now. Young people are often very comfortable using social media to express themselves and stay connected by sharing their ideas, thoughts and feelings with friends. But bear in mind that most social media platforms require a child to be at least 13 before they should access it (WhatsApp is 16). Remind your child that, while it's OK to express who we are on social media, they should still always think before posting – and that their self-worth is never measured by their number of likes, friends or followers.

7 Coach 'Safe Sharing'

As part of expressing themselves, your child may want to share something online that they've created – like a funny video, a sketch, a meme or a dance. If they're too young to have their own social media, you could use your own account to share it with selected people who you trust. Emphasise the importance of only sharing content with people that your child knows well, like family and friends. This type of conversation is also useful for introducing young people to the risks and challenges that can come when expressing ourselves to a wider online audience of strangers.

Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman 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.



About Children's Mental Health Week

Around three children in every primary school class has a mental health problem. Many more struggle with challenges from bullying to bereavement. Now in its seventh year, Children's Mental Health Week shines a spotlight on the importance of young people's mental health – and it's never seemed more relevant than it does in 2021.

Find out more at www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk

