



St. John Vianney School

Steps to Independence & Education for Life

Weekly News

22/10/2021



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Dear Parents and Carers,



I hope you have and your families have had a pleasant week, despite the poor autumnal weather we have faced?

The half term has been a very busy one and I can see that both staff and pupils are ready and looking forward to a well-earned rest next week. The next half term is also a 7 week period, before we break for Christmas and I hope we all have an opportunity to recharge the batteries, ensuring we are all ready for making the most of the opportunities provided in School in the lead up to Christmas.

We have had a great week in school. On Tuesday morning Mr Woods began his 'singing club' in school, which was really well attended. I have ambitions of him developing a school choir from the group so no pressure there. We will keep you informed of how he progresses with our eager and talented singers.

On Wednesday, Mr Whelan took 15 pupils in KS3 to a Schools' Basketball tournament in Oldham. I am told the pupils involved were excellent ambassadors for the school, won plenty of their matches and had great fun playing against their peers in other schools. Mr Whelan is now planning a reciprocal tournament at SJV in the near future. Well done to all our players.

On Wednesday, I also presented the new School Council with their badges. Mrs Griffin has organised one elected member of each class team to represent their peers at School Council events, ensuring pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard. I look forward to seeing them participate in a range of activities, where they will be, I know, outstanding representatives of the school. Good luck to those elected.

On Friday, Mr Damant arranged a deep learning day for 8 classes in school, with an outside organisation 'Teach Rex'. The company planned and delivered a range of workshops, ensuring pupils considered the sustainability agenda and how their own lives have a real impact on others' across the world. You will remember that Pope Francis in 2015 requested us all to consider how we can take better care of our common home. His 'Laudato Si' address criticised those who fail to care for that with which they have been entrusted and the consequences that can flow from that failure. The Teach Rex workshops and our special 'Gorilla' guest, certainly helped our pupils in understanding this and made them think about how they can impact more positively on others' lives.

It has really been a great end to the first half term. I do hope you enjoy the half term break and we look forward to welcoming your child back into School on Monday 1st November at 9am.

Best wishes.

Mr A Moloney
Headteacher

Vacancy

SJV are looking for an 'Estates Assistant'. For more information on this vacancy click on the link below.

<https://stjohnvianneyschool.co.uk/our-school/current-vacancies/>

Over 40 SJV pupils enjoying their film reward afternoon on Thursday for achieving 97% and better attendance at school since September; Well done all!!



Don't forget to change your clocks

Pupil Safety and Dark Nights

We will be setting our clocks back an hour and summer time ends on 31st October. Road traffic collisions increase by 20% in the fortnight after the time change. Sadly, some of those collisions will involve child pedestrians and cyclists. Children under-16 are one of the most vulnerable groups of road users to help support road safety ROSPA created a road safety guide for parents/carers.

Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents click on the link below:

<https://www.rospace.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>



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 **“Angry/Cross”**

Angry/ Cross



Clawed hands (palms in, pointing forward) moving at waist height, move up and down alternately with emphasis.

The Department for Education have asked schools to encourage their children and young people and staff to continue to test twice-weekly at home over the holiday period - as well as testing at home the evening before they return to school.

They add..... ‘reporting test results is just as important as taking the test, as this allows us to understand the virus and take additional action when needed.’

Results can be reported on <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Our Catholic School

Oh, my goodness! How is it half term already? It seems like a few minutes ago that I was writing 'welcome back'. I can only assume that it comes down to the idea that time flies when you are having fun and that is certainly true at SJV.

This week we are reminded in the Gospel of how Jesus came to give his life to others and for us to follow his lead. Jesus said 'Whoever wants to be truly great must follow my example and be like a servant to others. I did not come to be served, I came to serve and to give my life to other people.'

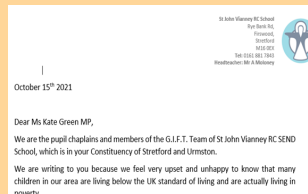
We decided that in the Chaplaincy Team we would look at what we can do to serve others, so as well as continuing to collect cans and toiletries for the homeless, we would also demand direct action. As a team we put together a letter to our local MP for the Trafford area, Kate Green, demanding an end to child poverty, asking her to speak in the house of commons on this important area. We will let you know what she says when we get a reply. We have also invited her for a visit!



In RE this week we have had a busy time making a difference to our work or 'MAD' time. We have answered questions on what we want in terms of our life goals in friendship and love. We have also been ranking and sorting out pictures of different parts of creation and explaining why we put them in that order. Our learners have definitely been challenged. Having an opinion is one thing; but being able to justify and explain your thinking behind it is a high order skill.

I hope you all have a lovely half term and that we all come back recharged and well rested, ready for the next exciting half term and the run up to Christmas.

Mrs Garfin



Half term is upon us, and that means there are only 2 weeks left to get your shoebox into school when we come back, before the deadline on Friday 12th November. As you start to get your shoebox together, start thinking about the items that need to be in the box. Try and get a 'Wow' item in there that the child will immediately love when they open the box.

This could be a cuddly toy, a deflated football and pump, a toy truck or car or a musical instrument. Consider some other small gift items like other toys and stationery too. It will mean so much to the children that receive them.

Mrs Murphy



Stars of the Week

A huge well done to everyone who received their Star of the Week

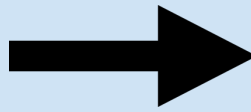
certificates last week!!
Amazing effort!



KS3 News

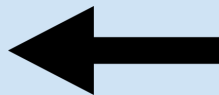
Class 1 have been getting in the Halloween spirit this week, decorating biscuits to look like pumpkins and spiders.

Miss Walsh

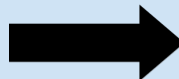


Class 8 had a great time enhancing their independence and social skills by planning a journey into Manchester. They then ordered their own choice of food at the food court and had some great social time together.

Mrs Garfin



Pupils in Class 4 enjoyed working on their podcast during independence time. Mr Healey



Introducing our school council representatives 2021-2022

- Class 1 – Joseph
- Class 2 – Kayden
- Class 3 – Jason
- Class 4 – Charles
- Class 5 – Hassan
- Class 6 – Nesrine
- Class 8 – Troy
- Class 9 – Arshvin
- Class 10 – Blythe
- Class 11 – Efe
- Class 12 – Demarjio
- Class 13 – Ben



What is a school council?

A school council is group of students who are elected to represent the views of all pupils and to improve our school.



Well done to all our new councillors who have been elected by their peers to take on the role of school councillor!

KS 4 & 5 News

Class 12 had an amazing trip out with all Post 16 at Quarry Bank Mill and Gardens. A day for developing social skills, forming friendships, helping each other and practicing independence skills. The students were great ambassadors for SJV! Well done.

Mrs Rouse, Mrs Shawcross & Mrs Peddie.



Class 9 had a lovely trip to Sale Water Park where we had a walk around the lake and down the river Mersey. The pupils really enjoyed feeding the ducks and geese.

Miss Wood



Class 13 visited Quarry Bank Mill this week and had a brilliant trip. They found the experience really interesting and did amazingly with the walk after in some interesting conditions.

Mr Kanakides



Class 10 had a great time out at the "Grayson Perry Art Show" in Manchester, here are some of our pictures of our time out.

Mrs Taylor





SJV Speech and Language

A note from us...

Hi Everyone,

We hope you have settled into the new school year and your new classes. We have a technology focus for this newsletter with some ideas of technology, apps and websites that can be used in and outside of school!

Hope this helps,

Danielle, Helen and Shani



Top Tip

Visual schedules are a way of making the steps of a routine or activity visible and are beneficial for students of ALL ages and abilities.

The information on visual schedules can range from giving the activities within a child's day to giving the steps for a specific activity to making a list.

Information can be presented in pictures or words according to the students individual needs.

Visual schedules help to keep a student calm as it helps them to understand what is coming up next and can help to build independence as students can learn to follow a schedule instead of relying on adult instruction.

We ALL use visual schedules e.g. IKEA instructions, recipes, outlook calendars.

Useful Resources – Adapting Powerpoints to Reduce Visual Stress

Some people find

Black text on a white background

difficult to read for a long time. Subtle changes like this light grey background and dark grey writing can make it easier to read. Consider changing Powerpoints used with students and adults to this light grey background and dark grey writing to make reading easier.

Helpful Websites for Visuals

- <https://do2learn.com/picturecards/VisualSchedules/index.htm>
- <https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/kids/resources>
- <https://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/topics/communication/communication-tools/visual-supports>
- www.twinkl.co.uk

Visual supports of the week

