St John Vianney RC School
Rye Bank Rd,
Firswood,
Stretford
M16 0EX
Tel: 0161 881 7843
Headteacher: Mr A Moloney

25th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have, this week, finally taken handover of the new building. The building was first muted in January 2021 and we have certainly come a long way since its inception, with further work to be completed in the next 16 months. The school is truly blessed to have such an amazing new facility and resource to educate the children and young people of St John Vianney School. The new building really is a fantastic place for our children and one that will help us to further grow and develop as an outstanding Catholic school. It will also significantly enhance our SEND profile across Greater Manchester.

During the Easter break we had to empty the old school buildings and move all our possessions into the new build. We had more than 700 crates to pack and unload during the Easter break, ready for the staff to return to work on Tuesday this week. The staff have spent this week becoming familiar with the new building, identifying and planning their classrooms and unpacking crates so that we are ready to open again for pupils on Monday morning, 28th April. We have also had to identify new systems to get pupils into and out of school at the start and end of each day, new Fire evacuation procedures and establish routines for break times/ lunchtimes and for lesson activities.

There have certainly been some teething problems since taking possession of the building, but nothing that we can't address over the next few weeks as we develop systems that best suit the needs of the children and young people of the School. We are excited now for the children to come back to school after a lengthy Easter break. I do hope they have enjoyed the Easter period and you and your families feel recharged and ready for the summer term, with so much to do before we celebrate the end of the school year in July. I am confident that the children will quickly settle into the new building, as we have maintained many of the systems that were successfully in place in the old building. Pupils will, however, need some settling in time, but I'm convinced the bigger classrooms and corridors and the extra facilities such as quiet rooms in every classroom will provide enhanced opportunities for our children to thrive. I know they are going to be really impressed with their new school. Some pupils I know however may be anxious, but we will support them to help them feel settled early next week. Please reassure any pupils who may be worried about moving to the new building.

Can I remind you please that we expect pupils to arrive at school for 9am on Monday morning. Key Stage 4 pupils are attending their annual residential at Calvert Trust next week and they need to arrive at school with their packed bags at the same time. We hope the pupils and the staff attending the week residential in the Lake District have a great week away and that the weather is kind to them.

It will be great to welcome parents and carers into school in the near future. You will be aware that we have rearranged the annual Parents Evening for Tuesday, May 20th from 4.30pm to 6.00pm, which will provide you with a great opportunity to meet with the teachers and staff to discuss the progress in learning made by your child since last September. The evening will also provide a fantastic opportunity for you to have a look around the new school to see the amazing facility we have been provided with. Please keep the date in your diary and make every attempt to attend. Additionally, we are preparing for parents 3 x 15-minute workshops on key areas of school business, which will be led by senior staff from 4.45pm.

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Finally, thank you for the support you have provided the school during the extended Easter break and for your wider support since the start of the year. We have always believed that St John Vianney School is a really special place and we are all really privileged to be the current custodians, helping build God's Kingdom on earth. The new build will, we hope, provide the impetus for us all to continue to grow as a school community. We encourage you all to continue to be a welcome and active member of our School community and if you require any support please let us know.

Very best wishes,

Mr A Moloney

Headteacher

Click on the link below to view a video tour of inside our new building:

https://youtu.be/AW6V-4loiSE