



St Vincent's VC Academy



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19 December 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your continued support this term. Special thanks to all who have attended our school Masses, Liturgies and Good News assemblies.

It has been a very busy term with much learning and fun taking place. To list just a few of our additional activities this half term: Hull FC Rugby coaching in Y3/4, professional dance instructor delivering PE in Years 1-6, KS1 trip to the cinema, Y5 Bikeability training, Y5 'Farm to Fork' trip to Tesco, competing with local schools in various sports, Home/School model project, whole-school visit to see Cinderella at the Hull Truck Theatre, KS1 nativity performance, school disco (run by our parents' association) and producing a Christmas CD.

Our school choir has spread Christmas joy and hope by singing at The Festival of Carols, the Parish SVP Christmas party, the Rotary Club carol concert, St Stephen's shopping centre, Rose Villa nursing home and at the St Cuthbert's Academy Trust carol concert.

We are happy to celebrate the fact that on the 12th December 2014, St Vincent's was listed in the Times newspaper as the 7th top performing primary school in the Local Authority. If you visit the website below and enter out postcode, HU5 2QR, our National data is here under our previous name of St Vincent's RC Primary School.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/index.html>

There is a blue box on the right hand side of the page – within this link our school is ranked 8th in the country when compared to 125 similar schools.

OFSTED: If at all possible, please find five minutes to complete an online OFSTED questionnaire about our school. It consists of only twelve multiple choice questions - <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Governors: Mrs Bridget King has been appointed as our new Chair of Governors. She can be contacted via the school office. Bridget is an integral part of our Parish and helps out in school weekly.

Volunteers: our school is blessed with the help of many volunteers. We would like to take this opportunity to thank a special individual, without whom many events would not happen. For all the help that Mrs Julie Rafferty gives us, we are truly grateful.

School meals: from the start of the term in January, school meals will be charged at 50p per day. Foundation Stage, Year One and Year Two are entitled to universal free school meals. Please note we are offering a uniform voucher for all successful applicants of Free School Meals. Forms are available at the school office. The more children that qualify for Free School Meals, the more money our school will receive to have a positive impact on the education of our children.

Mr Holtby is recovering well and we look forward to his return. Today we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Whitehead as her one term contract ends and she begins her new role at St George's Primary School. We wish her well and thank her for all her hard work this term. We welcome Mrs Donnelly who will be joining us in January as our Foundation Stage teacher, Key Stage One coordinator and a member of the Senior Leadership Team

St Cuthbert's RC Academy Trust

Company No: 09023802 Registered Office: St Mary Queen of Martyrs VC Academy, Nidderdale, Hull HU7 4BS

It is with sadness that we inform you of the death of a parent. Nicola Hicks, mother of Georgee Hicks in Year 5, passed away on Wednesday 17 December. Georgee is being cared for by his grandparents. Especially at this time of families gathering at Christmas, please remember Nicola and Georgee in your prayers.

The list below is of known dates for next year.
We will issue full dates for the next year in the first week of January.

Date	Event
Tuesday 6 January 8.55am	School reopens for all children
Friday 9 January 9.30am	School Epiphany Liturgy in church
Friday 9 January TBC	Visiting Polish choir to perform a concert
Monday 2 February – Friday 13 February	Y4 National Curriculum swimming
Friday 13 February	3.30pm Half term break begins
Monday 23 February 8.55am	School reopens for all children
Tuesday 3 March - pm	'Little Angels' – Awareness afternoon about Christian brothers and sisters around the world.
Wednesday 25 March 1.45pm	Y3 & Y4 Theatrical performance to parents
Thursday 26 March 1.45pm	Y3 & Y4 Theatrical performance to parents
Friday 27 March 3.30pm	School breaks up for Easter
Tuesday 14 April 8.55am	School reopens for all children
Wednesday 15 April – Friday 17 April	'My Mission Team' three day mission in our school
Monday 11 May – Friday 15 May	Y6 SATs week
Sunday 17 May	Parish and school May Procession
Friday 22 May	3.30pm Half term break begins
Saturday 30 May	First Confession for Holy Communion preparation Further details to follow in January
Monday 1 June 8.55am	School reopens for all children
Friday 12 June	School photographs
Sunday 14 June	First Holy Communion service Further details to follow in January
Friday 19 June – Monday 22 June	Y5 Residential trip
Friday 17 July 3.30pm	School closes for Summer

At this time of year amidst the presents and the parties, we are reminded to focus on our spiritual journey. Please find time to share the Wednesday Word with your children and time for daily prayer.

We celebrate the gift of God's only son Jesus, sent to save us. More importantly it is a time of preparation by making ourselves ready for the second coming of Christ – a belief which is central to our Catholic faith: 'Stay awake, be ready'.

As always please do not hesitate to contact school should you have a query or concern.

Wishing you a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Yours sincerely, God Bless

F McDonnell
Head of School

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