

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
1 March 2024

Dear parents and families,

Our school, once more, came alive with a colourful array of characters. Children and staff embraced the spirit of the day by dressing up as their favourite literary heroes and heroines. Princesses, knights and beloved characters from traditional stories brought the magic of much loved books to life. I truly enjoyed seeing all the different costumes; we had superheroes, quite a few Harry Potters, Ladybirds, Mario, Mary Poppins, Paddington, Big Bad Wolf, 1 and 2 Things... so many I couldn't list them all here. Ah, and finally, we found Wally, who was in Year 2!

As we bid farewell to another enchanting World Book Day, let's carry the spirit of celebration and storytelling with us throughout the year and continue to immerse ourselves in the wonders of Reading.

Lent

In the heart of the Lenten season, we gather as a community to reflect on our values and the profound teachings that guide us. At St Vincent's, our commitment to compassion and service is deeply rooted in our faith, inspired by the exemplary life of St. Vincent de Paul and his strong dedication to the Preference for the Poor.

While it is commendable to consider personal sacrifices such as giving up sweets or chocolate, let us remember that Lent is fundamentally about drawing closer to God and nurturing our spiritual growth. Though we may already be a few weeks into this season, it is never too late to start or reinforce our commitment to acts of charity and kindness.

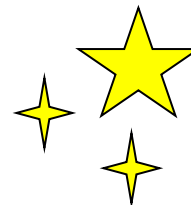
Whether it's giving of our time, donating resources, or simply offering a listening ear to those in need, each gesture of kindness aligns with the spirit of Lent and contributes to the betterment of our community.

Within our school learning, we find opportunities to remind our children of the profound importance of looking beyond ourselves and extending care to others. In line with our school's ethos, let us focus not only on abstaining from certain indulgences, but also on actively seeking ways to uplift others and make a positive difference in their lives.

Have a lovely week.

Mrs Gonzalez

Stars of the Week



- Reception – Augustus for an excellent first week at St Vincent's.
Year 1 – Bonnie for fantastic work and effort on fairy tales.
Year 2 – Chimamanda for being helpful and reliable and for working hard.
Year 3 – Ivan for working incredibly hard at handwriting.
Year 4 – Octavian for a great start to St Vincent's.
Year 5 – Thierno for showing growing confidence when reading aloud in whole class settings.
Year 6 – Isabel for continuing to improve her writing.

School Value Awards

- Reception – Shayah for being compassionate when playing with others.
Year 1 – Amanda for showing kindness and compassion to a new table partner.
Year 2 – Epiphany for showing aspiration by producing work to a fantastic standard.
Year 3 – Flora for showing compassion to those in need.
Year 4 – Henry for aspiring to create ripples of joy in the world.
Year 5 – Bella for showing resilience when presenting her work to the whole class.
Year 6 – Jaheim for showing curiosity in lessons.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 6 March	Year 4 Liturgy at 09:00 <i>(Parents welcome)</i>
Wednesday 6 March	Year 6 to Mass <i>(leave school at 09:00)</i>
Wednesday 6 March	Year 4 Library visit <i>(leave school at 13:40)</i>
Monday 11 March	Year 5 Library visit <i>(leave school at 13:40)</i>
Wednesday 13 March	Year 4 to Mass <i>(leave school at 09:00)</i>
Thursday 14 March	School Disco KS1 & KS2
Friday 15 March	Non-Uniform Day <i>(please donate an Easter egg)</i>
Friday 15 March	Coffee morning for those interested in PTA <i>(After drop off)</i>
Wednesday 20 March	Years 3 & 5 to Mass <i>(leave school at 09:00)</i>
Monday 25 – Thursday 28 March	Easter activities week
Tuesday 26 March	Purple Day <i>(Non-uniform day in support of Epilepsy Action)</i>
Wednesday 27 March	Year 2 to Mass <i>(leave school at 09:00)</i>
Thursday 28 March	Last day of Spring Term
Monday 15 April	First day of Summer term
Friday 24 May	Break The Rules Day
Thursday 6 June	50p trail <i>(Please save 50p coins in preparation)</i>
Saturday 13 July	Summer Fair TBC

Coffee Morning

All parents, who are interested in helping the PTA, are welcome to come to a Coffee Morning at drop off time on Friday 15 March in the school hall. Whether you wish to be part of the PTA or just curious about future events, please come along.

This Week's Attendance

26 February – 1 March 2024	
Reception	95.1%
Year 1	98.7%
Year 2	98.7%
Year 3	97.3%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	96.8%
Year 6	94.4%
Whole school	97.2%



The Rosary

Each Tuesday at 8.45am, our Spiritual Leaders lead the Rosary in the school hall. Many children join our Spiritual Leaders to pray a decade of the rosary together and offer their own prayer intentions to Jesus. We would like to warmly welcome parents to join us in prayer.



The Big Lent Walk

As Mini Vinnies, we have been hard at work deciding ways that we can follow St Vincent, in showing charity and compassion to the poor. This year we will be taking part in the Big Lent Walk. We will take on the challenge of collectively walking 200km, to be part of a massive team helping people as they overcome poverty. The Big Lent Walk will take place on Wednesday 27 March at 1.30pm. All children and staff members will participate. We encourage you to join us in putting our faith into action. We will set up a page on the GoFundMe website for family and friends to donate.

Further details will follow next week.

From the Mini Vinnies.



Fundraising Activities

Just a reminder that the following activities have been scheduled on the calendar over the coming months:

- **Spring school disco – Thursday 14 March**
Please see the poster in the office, along with the sign-up form for volunteers.
Tickets are on sale **in the playground** each day.
- **Easter activities week Monday 25 - Thursday 28 March**
We are hoping to run some Easter activities 25-28 March. In advance of this week of activities, we will be requesting donations of Easter eggs. Therefore, if you are shopping over half term, please think about picking up an egg for the donation.
- **Break the rules day – Friday 24 May**
Details to follow.
- **50p trail – Thursday 6 June**
Please keep collecting your 50p coins for this fundraising event.
- **Summer Fair – Saturday 13 July** Details to follow.



St. Vincent's Easter Week

This year, we will be enjoying Easter activities from Monday 25th March until Thursday 28th March when the children break up for the Easter break.

Each day after school there will be fun and games for all of the family to enjoy. Please stop by after school and have some fun.

We will have lots to enjoy.....

Games	Raffle	Refreshments	Easter egg hunt	Easter egg tombola
		Lucky dip		
	Crafts			

We will be holding a school dress down day on Friday 15th March. We are asking for children to donate an Easter egg for the day.

As always, we cannot run these fun events for this children without your help and support. We are hoping that children in our junior classes will be able to assist with running the stalls, and therefore, any adult helpers to supervise the stalls will be very much appreciated. Each day we will aim to be finished by 4.30. We hope that by holding events throughout the week, we are making this as accessible for everyone as we possibly can.

Further details will be sent soon.



Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Bella, Diana, Maddison, Polly and Tilly on their amazing performance in a recent show at a local theatre. They showed great commitment and dedication.

