

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
11th December 2020

Gospel Reflection

John 1:6-8

Today we hear some more about John the Baptist, who came to tell everyone to get ready for Jesus, who is the light of the world. Let's think about what that means.

At the beginning, this week's Gospel talks a lot about the light. The light is another name for someone very special.

Jesus is the light of the world. This reading says that John the Baptist came to tell everyone that Jesus was coming.

Jesus is the Son of God and he shows us how we should live – he is a shining light in the darkness for us to follow. If we share the light, we can see so much more! If we share the light of Jesus, we can light up the whole world.

We can be kind. We can be generous. We can share with others. We can be friendly. We can help people who are poor, or sick, or hungry. You can also share the light of Jesus by helping others, by loving and caring for the people that you meet.

How will you share the light of Jesus in the next week?

Extracted from Cafod's Website

Wednesday Word – HOPE

The Wednesday word this week is **Joy**. This is reflected in the gospel at the weekend. "Dear young people, if we are close to Jesus, we will have joy in our hearts and a smile on our face." Pope Francis

As we quickly approach the last week before the Christmas holidays, we hear in the news yet more guidance with changes to schools, this time a change in isolation rules (please see separate notice). You may have also heard reports about how the Schools Standards Minister has announced that schools Inset days can be used on Friday 18 December, even if not already scheduled. Our Inset days are already set and therefore would have to make up the hours in alternative ways. Furthermore, this short notice would leave many families, particularly working parents, without childcare arrangements. Therefore, I have decided that the last day of school will be 18th December as planned. After all, we have worked really hard, families and staff, to keep our school open and we would like to enjoy the last few days with the children.

Although we had some good news regarding the vaccine, we know schools will continue battling with the virus for a long time yet. Therefore, I am appealing to all parents, children and staff to remain alert and continue with all precautions to maintain the safety of our community. Please remember we are just coming out of a full lockdown and even so, the spread of the virus in the community remains high.

We must all observe the rules and guidance from the Government and this includes not mixing households. Please refrain from children's parties or sleepovers, giving people a lift or picking other people's children from school unnecessarily. You mustn't meet anyone socially indoors - at a private home or public setting - unless they're from your household or support bubble. Remember it is all our responsibility to look after each other. Let's look after each other even if that means 'keeping our distance'.

Thank you for your understanding.

Juliana Gonzalez

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**Head teacher
Juliana Gonzalez**

**Chair of Governors
Christine Fisher**

**SENCo
Catherine Badawi**

Star of the Week!

Our Star of the Week 30th Nov – 4th Dec has been awarded to the following children for all their hard work, good behaviour and for excellent learning. Well done!!



Year 5 – Lilly



Year 4 – Myla



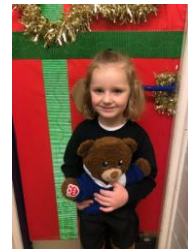
Year 3 – Henry



Year 2 – Leia



Year 1 – Natalia



Reception – Lillie



KS1 Letter to Father Christmas

Last week Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 walked to our local postbox and sent their letters to Father Christmas. Thank you for sending in your stamps and donations, it is greatly appreciated and the children had a great time delivering their lists. Remember to keep an eye out for your reply from the North Pole!



Attendance

2 nd Sept -11 th Dec 2020	Attendance	Unauthorised sessions
Reception	98.3%	2
Year 1	96.9%	6
Year 2	96.8%	10
Year 3	95.9%	60
Year 4	91.8%	95
Year 5	97.5%	35
Year 6	95.8%	23
Whole school	96.2%	231

**Our target for attendance this academic year is
96.5%**

Currently our attendance rate is 96.2%

Attendance for the last academic year was 93.4%

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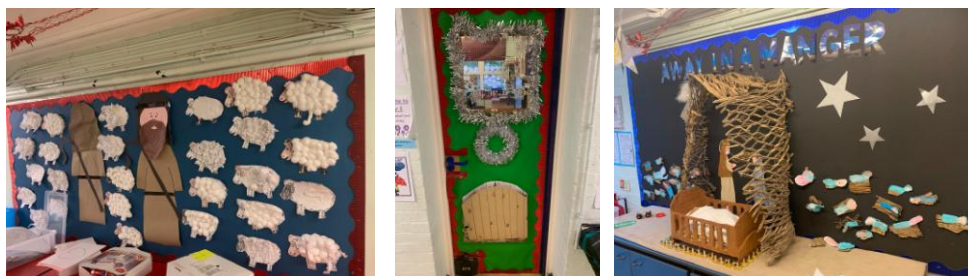
Christmas has arrived!

Christmas arrived at St Vincent's last week. Our Teaching Assistants were hard at work decorating our display boards with the children's wonderful work and spreading some festive cheer.



Christmas Cards reminder

Some of the children will have seen the post boxes scattered about the school and in the main foyer. The deadline for posting your Christmas cards to teachers and friends has been extended to **Monday 14th December**. Please make sure your cards are labelled with the recipient's full name and class.



Dates for your Diary

Christmas card extended deadline	Monday 14 th December 2020
Nasal flu vaccination catch-up	Tuesday 15 th December 2020
Reception class Nativity	TBC
Year 2 Nativity	Thursday 17 th December
Christmas parties	TBC
KS2 Carol Concert	Tuesday 15 th December 2020
Last day of Autumn Term	Friday 18 th December 2020
School re-opens for Spring Term	Monday 4 th January 2021
Individual photographs catch-up	Tuesday 12 th January 2021



Internet Safety



With the support of industry partners BT, Sky, TalkTalk, Virgin, Google and BBC, to name a few, and the help of leading child online safety experts, www.internetmatters.org offer advice and information available on tackling online safety issues.

Breaking News – Shorter self-isolation period announced today

The government has announced that self-isolation for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus will be shortened from 14 days to 10 days, across the UK from Monday 14th December. This means that all children are expected back in school on Monday 14th December, unless they are isolating because of a contact with a case of coronavirus from outside school. Children in Year 5, who were previously due to return on Thursday 17th December and children in Reception, who were previously due to return on Friday 18th, should now return on Monday 14th.

Remote Learning for children still isolating

Next week the teachers will be setting work in Google Classroom for the week. However, as it is the last week in the run up to Christmas, much of the learning will be based on practical activities. When you visit Google Classroom from Monday you will find a timetable and activities that can be completed independently at home.

Christmas Parties

Class Christmas parties will now take place next week. You will receive details from the class teachers.

Nativities

Year 1 Nativity took place yesterday, Thursday 10th December. Year 2 Nativity will take place on Thursday 17th December. Miss Smith will contact the Reception class with a date for the Reception Nativity.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

The immunisation team will return to school on Tuesday 15th December to vaccinate those children whose parents have given permission, but were not in school last Monday.

Individual School Photographs

The school photographer will return to school on Tuesday 12th January to take photographs of those children who were not in school today.

Applications for Admission to Reception Class September 2021

The deadline for Applications for Admission to the Reception class in September 2021 is 15th January 2021. Please return your Supplementary Information Form, with a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate and Full Birth Certificate, to the school office. In addition, please remember to complete the online application on the website of the borough in which you live. Thank you.