

# St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter  
13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## Wednesday Word – Talent

The Wednesday word this week is **Talent**. This is reflected in the gospel at the weekend. "Dear young people, put your talents at the service of the Gospel, with creativity and boundless charity." Pope Francis.

I would normally try to be positive in the reporting of school news, however, today I do want to start by sharing some concerns regarding the parking/traffic outside the front of the school.

I have received a number of reports now from parents regarding the discourteous driving during drop off and pick up times. We politely request that parents and visitors to our school, park with thought and consideration for our children, other adults and the local community. Please obey the parking rules in place and do not park in an obtrusive manner. Whilst we want children and families to be punctual, this should not be at the expense of the community. Please take this seriously and support the school in maintaining our good relationships with our neighbours.

The safety of the children is our priority. Thank you to everyone who parks in a safe and considerate fashion.

Continuing on the same lines of safety of our children, we are asking parents not to congregate outside the gates. Not only does this go against the current lockdown restrictions but, on occasions, blocks the safe entry of our students to school. It is a collective responsibility to look after our children and ensure their safety.

As advised by Public Health, please adhere to the safe distancing rules and wear a face covering if at all possible, when coming to drop off or collect your child. Many of our parents are already wearing face coverings when coming to school, but we need everyone's cooperation in keeping us safe.

Thank you for your understanding and support on this matter.

Have a lovely and safe weekend.

Juliana Gonzalez

## Gospel Reflection

Matthew 22:15-21

Jesus is telling us that it is important to use the gifts that God has given us. We are all good at different things. We all have different skills and talents. Some of us are good at singing; some of us are good at sport. Some of us are good at dancing; some of us are good at drawing. Some of us are good at baking; some of us are good at building Lego. Some of us are good at speaking out when we see that something is wrong or unfair; some of us are good at helping others.

Whatever your talent is, Jesus is saying that it is important not to hide our talents from others – to just keep them to ourselves and never let them grow. Instead, it is by going out into the world, by sharing our talents and using our skills to help others, that we serve God. Children all around the world are using their talents to make the world a better and fairer place. By using our skills to help others in our world, we are also serving God.

Extracted from Cafod's Website

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**Head teacher  
Juliana Gonzalez**

**Chair of Governors  
Christine Fisher**

**SENCo  
Catherine Badawi**

## 'We Will Remember Them'

We have asked our pupils to contribute to our collaborative school displays by creating a poppy. Here are some examples of their wonderful works of art.



*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.*

(Laurence Binyon's: For the Fallen, Ode of Remembrance, September 1914)

## Year 2



This week Year 2 have made poppy wreaths in honor of Remembrance Day.

## Competition Winners!

The winners of our reception class competition are those who guessed 22lbs:

*Ying, Lillie, Olamide, Abigail and Sienna.*

Well done and congratulations! Thank you all for your kind donations, we look forward to making rocket cookies and activities with the whole class.

## Attendance

2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov – 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2020	Attendance	Unauthorised sessions	Lates
Reception	99.6%	1	1
Year 1	100%	0	0
Year 2	94.6%	0	0
Year 3	98.3%	0	1
Year 4	93.9%	4	1
Year 5	99.2%	0	1
Year 6	96.5%	0	0
<b>Whole school</b>	<b>97.4%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>

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

**Currently our attendance rate is 97.4%**

**Attendance for the last academic year was 93.4%**

★ **Well done Year 1** ★

**– best attendance for last week with 100%**

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## School Council

Having an elected School Council is an important and useful way for schools to provide leadership and development opportunities for their pupils. School councils are an excellent way in which to increase participation, teaching young people about democracy, local and global citizenship and accountability. Early next week we will have the elections of our School Council. Children will vote for two representatives from Years 2 to 6. This is not a popularity contest, but about choosing children who will represent the voices and views of the whole class. Children interested in being candidates for the School Council will have the chance to talk to their class to explain why they are the right person for the job. Please help your child in preparing to talk to their class if they so wish.

## Phonics in KS1

Traditionally, in the summer term, all Year 1 pupils are assessed on their ability to apply their phonetic knowledge to read words. This is carried out using the Phonic Screening Check, which consists of a mixture of 40 words; some real words and some made-up words. However, due to circumstances surrounding lockdown, our current Year 2 were unable to complete their screening test last June. Therefore, it is required they are assessed during this current year. This will be done progressively and in stages. We want the children to go through the process with minimal disruption and worry.

## Food and Toy collection

As we find ourselves full into the run up to Christmas, we would like to think about helping those in our community who need it the most.

We are going to be collecting food and toys to help families in need in our school and in the local community. We will be donating our collection to the Bromley Food Bank. We want to collect toys as well, with the intention of brightening up children's Christmas. If you can and would like to contribute, please think about us when you clear your toys to make space for the new ones from Santa.

### URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS:

LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE, CUSTARD, RICE PUDDING, SQUASH, JAM  
PACKETS OF MASHED POTATOES, COLD MEAT, BISCUITS  
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SHAMPOO, MEN'S SHOWER GEL & DEODORANT  
NAPPIES SIZE 5 & 6, WASHING DETERGENT

### WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF

BEANS, PASTA, SOUP, UHT MILK, RICE, TOMATOES

**\*\*PLEASE DON'T SEND US CHILLED ITEMS AS WE DON'T HAVE THE CORRECT STORAGE FOR IT AND IT SPOILS BEFORE WE CAN DISTRIBUTE IT\*\***

## Reminder

Please return the General Permissions Form for your child, if you have not already done so. If we do not receive it, your child might have to be excluded from certain activities.

## Dates for your Diary

Nasal flu vaccination day	7 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
Christmas dinner	9 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
Christmas jumper day	9 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
Last day of Autumn Term	18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
School re-opens for Spring Term	4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021