

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
23rd October 2020

Wednesday Word – Love

'Love is the measure of Faith.' Pope Francis.

Next week we will have our Half Term break and with it, the pressure to entertain our children with a week packed with 'exciting' and interesting days to remember. Special days with parents and family need not break the bank. It is not how much money the activities cost, but the quality time spent with loved ones that will stay in their memories as they grow up. Many local libraries have free 'story time', and parks are packed with interesting things to do. When was the last time your child climbed a tree? All children living on London's doorstep have the good luck to have the most beautiful places to visit and many of them are free, including some of the exciting Museums and Galleries. All the extracurricular activities that children experience, will enrich their minds and expand their vocabulary, so in a gist, you are doing homework with them!

The pandemic has impacted and continues to impact the lives of numerous families. Many parents have lost their job or have been furloughed, leaving them under high pressure and the need to balance day to day struggles. Some families may have seen their financial situation worsen, even if they predict this is only for a short period of time. I would like to remind all those families that if they feel they are eligible for Free School Meals, please apply for them, even if you know your situation soon will change. The more Free School Meals students the school has, the larger the funding we get from the Government. This is recorded and managed confidentially and will never be published or advertised with names. Therefore, the benefits are for the whole school. In addition, your child will be entitled to free school dinners until 31/03/2022. By applying and registering for Free School Meals you will be helping your family, as well as the school.

Have a lovely and safe weekend.

Mrs Gonzalez

Gospel Reflection

Matthew 23:34-40

Today, Jesus gives the disciples and us two commandments for how we should live our lives.

Jesus says the greatest and the first commandment is that we should love God with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind.

We can show that we love God when we pray - by giving thanks and praise to God and by remembering all that God asks us to do. We can also show our love for God by trying to behave in a way that pleases God.

Jesus asks us to love our neighbour as ourselves. Our neighbours are the people sitting next to us right now, as well as all the people in the same street, at school and at church, in our town and in our world. After all, we're all part of the same big global family. And we're all loved by God.

(Extracted from Cafod's Website)



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**Head teacher
Juliana Gonzalez**

**Chair of Governors
Christine Fisher**

**SENCo
Catherine Badawi**

Donations for Reception Class

Our Reception class is asking for donations of some costumes for the children in their class to use. Please see separate letter from Mrs Gonzalez regarding this.

Competition time for Reception Children

A "Guess the Weight" competition is being held for the Reception children. The children should guess the weight of the pumpkin pictured below. Please see separate letter from Miss Smith to the Reception parents.



Invitation to the Holy Rosary

St Partick's Catholic Church Chislehurst would like to warmly invite you all to join them for a special Holy Mass, followed by Praying the Holy Rosary with the children, young people and families on **Sunday 1st November 2020** at **9:15a.m.**

'e-safety' tips for parents – check out **Common Sense Media**. To learn more about the games or apps your children are or may be using, **Common Sense media** covers thousands, which includes advice and reviews from other parents;
<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

Attendance

From 2 nd Sept 2020	Attendance	Unauthorised sessions
Reception	99.3%	1
Year 1	97.2%	0
Year 2	97.7%	0
Year 3	96.9%	2
Year 4	94.7%	18
Year 5	100%	0
Year 6	90%	20
Whole school	96.5%	40

Our target for attendance this academic year is 96.5%

Currently our attendance rate is 96.5%

Attendance for the last academic year was 96.2%

★ Well done Year 5 ★

– best attendance for last week with 100%

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Reception



This week Reception children have been learning about the season of Autumn and the changes this season brings.

We read the beautiful book- Leaf Man. We went on our Autumn walk on the school field and collected leaves.

This week's RE lesson was about God's world and how we can care for it. We read the story of Noah's ark and then made our own Earth and stuck our pictures onto it.

Dates for your Diary

Half Term break	26 th October – 30 th October 2020
INSET Day – school closed for children	2 nd November 2020
Nasal flu vaccination day	7 th December 2020
Christmas jumper day	11 th December 2020
Last day of Autumn Term	18 th December 2020
School re-opens for Spring Term	4 th January 2021

Reminders

The **Secondary Transfer 2021 Application** deadline is 23.59 on Saturday 31 October. Please submit your application, if you have not already done so. Thank you.

We would like to remind parents to return **flu vaccination forms** to the office as soon as possible, if you have not already done so. If you do not wish your child to receive the vaccination, we still require the forms to be returned, please.

We would like to share pictures of your child's learning journey within the St Vincent's community. If you could complete and return the **General Permissions Form**, it would be greatly appreciated.

Stay safe and God bless.