

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
27th November 2020

Wednesday Word – ADVENT

The Wednesday word this week is **Advent**. 'Advent is a time when we journey towards Jesus and his Kingdom of justice and peace,' Pope Francis.

This is reflected in the gospel at the weekend. 'The season of Advent restores this horizon of hope; a hope which does not disappoint for it is founded on God's Word. A hope which does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! He is faithful! He does not disappoint! Let us think about and feel this beauty.'

The Advent Wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end. This is to symbolize the fact that God's love for us has no beginning and no end. God's love is unending; he brought Jesus to earth to save us from sin. With this, God has given us the gift of eternal life in Heaven.

The Wreath is made with four candles, one for every week of Advent. Candles are the symbol of light as Jesus is the light of the world that came to us to dispel the darkness of sins.

Every week we light a candle, which is in preparation for the coming of Christ. The first candle is the Candle of Hope. It assures us we can have hope that God will fulfill the prophecies declared in the Old Testament about Jesus.

The second candle represents faith and is called "Bethlehem's Candle." The second candle is also purple to symbolism preparation for the coming king.

On the third week we light the pink candle, this is in Gaudette Sunday when we shift our reflection from "the Lord is coming" to "the Lord is near." Rejoice as you light the pink candle on your Advent wreath. You are more than half-way to Christmas!

The fourth candle is the Peace candle, called the "Angel's Candle." Jesus came to bring peace. He tells people, over and over, not to be afraid. But peace begins at home, within our walls and within us.

Sometimes we find a fifth candle which is white and it is lit on Christmas Day. This candle represents light and purity and is called "Christ's Candle."

Advent and indeed Christmas are celebrated in many different ways around the world. No matter how we choose to celebrate the season of Advent, let's remember Jesus entered our dark, broken world on the first Christmas long ago, and He's working even now to restore light, peace and life.

Have a lovely and safe weekend.

Juliana Gonzalez

Gospel Reflection

Matthew 13:33-37

Jesus promised us that one day he would return. In this gospel story Jesus is telling us that we must be ready when he comes again, but that we cannot be exactly sure when that will be.

As we don't know when he is coming, we must try to be ready all the time. Although we don't have to stay awake all night, we can go to sleep!

Advent is a time when we especially think about getting ready to welcome Jesus, when we remember his birth at Christmas and when he comes again in glory.

In today's gospel, Jesus asks us to look out and keep our eyes open for what is happening around us, so that we are ready when he comes.

What do you think Jesus wants us to see when we look around us?

Jesus wants us to see people who need our help, who are lonely, who are sad or do not feel well.

Jesus wants us to turn to those who are less fortunate and lend a helping hand.

This Sunday we will reflect on how we make sure we are ready for Jesus when he comes again.

Extracted from Cafod's Website

**St Vincent's
Catholic Primary
School**

**Harting Road
Mottingham
London SE9 4JR**

**Phone:
020 8857 5134**

**Email:
[general.post@st-
vincent.s.bromley.s
ch.uk](mailto:general.post@st-vincent.s.bromley.sch.uk)**

**Website:
[www.st-
vincent.s.bromley.s
ch.uk](http://www.st-vincent.s.bromley.sch.uk)**

**Head teacher
Juliana Gonzalez**

**Chair of Governors
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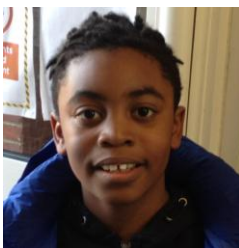
**SENCo
Catherine Badawi**

Star of the Week!

Our Star of the Week 23rd Nov – 27th Nov, has been awarded to the following children for all their hard work, good behaviour and for excellent learning. Well done!!



Year 6 – Emily



Year 5 – Kadesh



Year 4 – Alex



Year 3 – Lyla



Year 2 – Elsie



Year 1 – Violet



Reception – Arianna-Rose



School Council

We are pleased to announce that our newly elected council members have been chosen. Congratulations, we know you will do an outstanding job at representing your class!

Year 6 – Matthew, Oskar
Year 5 – Maksim, Morgane
Year 4 – TBC
Year 3 – Jasmine, Tiago
Year 2 – Immy, Leia



Attendance

16 th Nov – 20 th Nov 2020	Attendance	Unauthorised sessions	Lates
Reception	95.2%	0	0
Year 1	98.6%	0	0
Year 2	99.7%	0	1
Year 3	94.5%	10	0
Year 4	N/A	N/A	N/A
Year 5	84.7%	10	0
Year 6	97.5%	0	0
Whole school	93.8%	20	1

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

Currently our attendance rate is 93.8%

Attendance for the last academic year was 93.4%

★ Well done Year 2 ★

– best attendance for last week with 99.7%

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Celebrating Success!

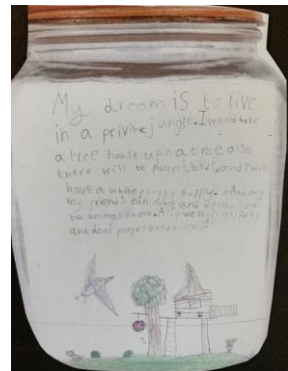
This week we would like to share with you some of our children's successes outside of school.

Amelia-Rose in Year 4 took part in a sponsored run on 31/10. It went exceptionally well, she raised over £2,000 in total for her two chosen charities': Ellenor Hospice and Darent Valley Hospital Pine Therapy Unit; an amazing achievement, well done!



Kiana in Year 3 has written a wonderful poem, demonstrating the impact covid-19 has had during this time; a moving and wonderful piece of work.

Year 3



This week Year 3 have been enjoying reading the BFG and creating imaginative dreams like the BGF did!

Christmas Cards

This year we ask that Christmas cards for friends and teachers are taken straight to the foyer next to the office and posted into our festive postbox. This is so we can quarantine them for 72 hours before handing them out. The deadline for posting your card is **Friday 11th December**. Please make sure your cards are labelled with the recipient's full name and class. We look forward to spreading some Christmas cheer handing them out on Wednesday 16th December!

KS1 Letter to Father Christmas

This year we have organised for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to send letters to Father Christmas. The children will write their letters during Literacy lessons and walk to our local post box to post them. Please see separate letter from the Infants team regarding this and remember to bring in your stamps or money by **Wednesday 2nd December** in a sealed, labelled envelope.

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Our Lady Help of Christians Easy Fundraising

The church has launched a new way to support our parish at no extra cost to you. Shop online and raise free donations for Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Mottingham with Easy Fundraising.

All you need to do is:

1. Go to easyfundraising download the app and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, the retailer will donate to Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Mottingham at no extra cost to you whatsoever. This can be as much as 7% of the purchase value!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Mottingham will benefit directly from your effort.

Dates for your Diary

Nasal flu vaccination day	7 th December 2020
Christmas Dinner	9 th December 2020
Christmas Jumper day	9 th December 2020
Individual Photographs	11 th December 2020
Christmas Nativities	TBC
KS1 & KS2 Christmas parties	TBC
KS2 Carol Concert	15 th December 2020 – details to follow
Last day of Autumn Term	18 th December 2020
School re-opens for Spring Term	4 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.

They work collaboratively across industry, government and with schools to reach UK families with tools, tips and resources to help children benefit from connected technology smartly and safely.

<https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.internetmatters.org%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjulian.wisdom%40met.police.uk%7C7d736a88db664dc1af9608d88a6e10f1%7Cf3ee2a7e72354d28ab42617c4c17f0c1%7C0%7C0%7C637411553298638110%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C2000&:sdata=Hodx%2BGVRtnezHRBqGkBbBVMuFh%2Bh1gzvsjlpBP6C71g%3D&:reserved=0>