

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
12th March 2021

Gospel Reflection

John 3:14-21

On this Sunday's gospel we will hear the story how Jesus is the light of the world.

Jesus is the 'light' who makes us see the way to his heavenly Father, and chases away the temptations which could lead us away from God.

When we do something wrong or that we know is naughty, do we like everyone else to see what we are doing, or prefer to keep it a secret?

No-one likes to be found out! This is what Jesus meant about people preferring the darkness, and doing things out of sight hoping no-one will see. When we are good and do what is right we have nothing to hide and don't mind being seen.

We are all children of the 'light'. At our baptism we were given a candle as a symbol of the light we received from Christ. The love of Jesus and the flame of faith have burned in our hearts since that day. As children of the light we have nothing to fear, knowing that Jesus is always close to us on our journey through life.

Prayer:

Jesus, you are the light of the world. You promised that if we stay close to you, we will never be lost in the darkness. Help us to stay with you always.

@The complete Children's Liturgy Book

Wednesday Word

The Wednesday word this week is **Self-giving**. *"Saints are not 'supermen' who are born perfect, but rather are ordinary people who followed God with all their heart."* Pope Francis.

What a joy!

Those are the words that best describe the feeling in my heart last Monday as the children were coming back to school.

Children's enthusiasm was evident in their smiles and chatter around school. Another true example of children's stoic spirit.

Lockdown, what lockdown? That was yesterday, today...we carry on! Resilient and brave, they are amazing; I wish I could bottle their strength!

And by Tuesday, the school was back to normal. The teachers have been assessing children's learning through this week and will continue for the next few days. These assessments will give us the information needed to plan our learning, to continue providing the best opportunities for our children. Teachers have noticed a number of children who have clearly lost stamina in their reading and writing, some have lost physical fitness. These are just a few areas of our curriculum where we have noticed a clear impact of the time spent at home during the school closure. You may have noticed the same when working and supporting your children at home and may wonder how to help them 'get back on track'. As children get back to school, they will be getting back to the old routines, and you could support them by continuing those workable and healthy routines at home. For example, regular meal times and sensible bed times, helping them eat well and rest enough.

It's not just the academic knowledge and skills that we will be assessing through the next few days and weeks. We will be monitoring any signs of concerns with children's wellbeing. We know that it will take a few weeks, but we are confident we will all get back to the standards expected. It is also brilliant to see how many children have flourished in different areas, with some exceptional examples of fantastic progress!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Gonzalez

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Subtitles

There has been some fascinating research conducted recently that showed children watching television with the subtitles on improved their reading age by a number of months over a short period.

This seems like something really simple we can do to support our children's reading. I can confirm from my own experience that it is also really useful when learning a new language.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club is open to all families that would like their child to attend. The cost is £5.00 per session. It provides the opportunity for the children to engage in activities to get them going for the day. That hour before school is stress-free. There's no need for hurrying or being late for school because they are already there. They also have a nutritious breakfast and always start with a smile on their faces, ready for learning.

Our children are still grouped in bubbles during breakfast time. We do this to minimise the spread of the virus.

Cold Weather

As the weather continues to be quite cold, please ensure your child comes to School with a jumper or cardigan and a warm coat. Due to safety measures of protection against Covid-19 we need to keep the school ventilated. Therefore, some of our doors and windows remain open throughout the day. The school still feels colder than usual and we hence we need to keep our children well wrapped up.

Stars of the Week

Reception – Alex J: For being a superstar in the classroom, helping adults to tidy and organise.

Year 1 - Amari: For working hard and giving good answers.

Year 2 - Lainey: For working really hard and showing good listening.

Year 3 - Lawrence: For fantastic story writing and working really hard.

Year 4 - Sebastian: For excellent work in literacy.

Year 5 - Oliver: For excellent writing work.

Year 6 - Sienna: For achieving 100% in all her tests.