

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
21st May 2021

Gospel Reflection

John 20:19-23

On Sunday we'll celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, which the Jews celebrated fifty days after the Passover. On this day we celebrate the birthday of the Church, and hear how Jesus sent his Holy Spirit to the disciples, just as he had promised to do.

The disciples were scared of people they thought would hurt them and so they were hiding away. But when Jesus came they rejoiced, and he gave them a very special gift, the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Suddenly the room that the disciples were sitting in was filled with the sound of a strong wind. Then the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit. They went outside to tell people about Jesus and everyone could understand them – even people from far away who spoke a different language! The Holy Spirit is like the wind. We can't see the wind, but we can certainly feel it on a windy day. The Holy Spirit can work through us when we are kind to our family and friends, when we think about other people.

Let's think about the courage and change that the Holy Spirit can bring as we pray together.

Prayer:

*Come, Holy Spirit,
and fill our hearts with your love.
Work through us to bring Jesus
to those who do not know him
so that we may share this love
with others.*

Amen

Wednesday Word - PEACE

The Wednesday word this week is **Peace**. *"Let us pray for peace, and let us bring it about, starting in our own homes!"* Pope Francis.

During my daily walk through the corridors and the playground, I frequently enjoy the sound of many different languages which are represented in our community. We are immensely fortunate to have such diverse cultural and family backgrounds in our very small Catholic school here in Mottingham.

Did you know some of our children speak up to three different languages before the age of five?

In our school, we teach children about different customs and beliefs that are in the wider world. These are not only from abroad, but also from different parts of the United Kingdom. We aim to give our children experiences and stories that are 'mirrors' and 'windows'.

Mirror: an experience or story that reflects your own culture and helps build your identity (e.g. a main character who looks like you)

Window: an experience or story that offers you a view into someone else's experience (e.g. a main character who is different from you)

The different cultures have contributed distinct flavours to the beauty of our school. Children love sharing a little wisdom, and sometimes even quirks, from their home culture. It is charmingly refreshing that they do not 'batter an eyelid' when someone talks and shows a tradition different from theirs. With this, we know, they are prepared to share a new world, different from ours, a 21st century world. Our children are facing a world that is forever growing more connected. The challenge of the 21st Century will be the increasing instant communication between long distant countries. A child of 5 years today may, in 20 years time, be working in a virtual office with a Chinese counterpart and being managed from Brazil.

The world is changing; we have to equip our children for that change and it starts by knowing about and valuing other cultures.

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Gonzalez

**St Vincent's
Catholic Primary
School**

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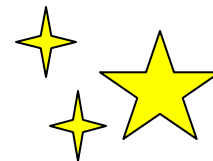
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**Head teacher
Juliana Gonzalez**

**Chair of Governors
Christine Fisher**

**SENCo
Catherine Badawi**



Stars of the Week

Reception – Emme: for working hard in PE and listening beautifully.

Year 1 – Ezra: for great writing.

Year 2 – Julian: for always being kind and caring to everyone.

Year 3 – Rachael: for fantastic maths work, especially her times tables.

Year 4 – Raphaella: for working very hard on her times tables facts.

Year 5 – Ana: for great improvement in writing.

Year 6 – Erika: for good improvement in writing – using ellipses and hyphens.

Childcare Choices

Tax-Free Childcare is a government scheme which helps parents with childcare costs. For every £8 a parent pays into their childcare account, the government will pay in £2, up to a maximum of £2,000 per child per year. Parents can use that money to make childcare payments direct to their childcare provider's bank account, for example our breakfast club. Alternatively, we still accept payment through Edenred Childcare Vouchers scheme. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Class Photographs

Class photographs will be taken on the first day back after the half term break, Tuesday 8th June. Please ensure that your child is wearing **summer** school uniform.

Coats

Some children have been coming to school without coats. At lunchtime they are outside for about an hour. The weather is currently cold and showery. Please make sure your child comes to school wearing a coat.

Little Princess Trust

Many thanks to those of you who have already made a donation. If you would like to donate, please follow the link below.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sofiasheadshave?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=Sofiasheadshave&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=e6a6aaa40395476b96191b1f64094a4b.

This Week's Attendance

Reception	99.4%
Year 1	96.4%
Year 2	96.3%
Year 3	97.5%
Year 4	97.9%
Year 5	98.0%
Year 6	99.3%
Whole school	97.9%

★ Well done Reception ★
– best attendance for last week with
99.4%