

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
19 May 2023

Dear parents and families,

At St Vincent's, we believe that diversity is a strength that enriches our community and promotes understanding, empathy, and inclusivity. In our school, we have students who speak multiple languages.

We celebrate the different backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives that make our school such a vibrant and inclusive place. We embrace multiculturalism and value the rich tapestry of languages that make our school truly unique. Only yesterday, Mr Moore commented that just in Year 6, with 32 children, there are 21 different languages spoken!

From Hindi to Igbo, Portuguese to Russian, Urdu to Italian, and many more, the multicultural nature of our community is a testament to the beauty of language diversity.

By celebrating the various languages spoken in our school, we acknowledge and appreciate the cultural variety within our community. This recognition promotes inclusivity, fosters a sense of belonging, and helps create an environment where students from different backgrounds feel valued and respected.

We believe that promoting an inclusive environment, where languages are respected and celebrated, nurtures global citizenship and empathy among our students. Together, we can create a supportive space for language learning and intercultural understanding.

In the first week after half term, we are planning to give our children an excellent opportunity to broaden their horizons, develop intercultural understanding, and embrace diversity. We are organising an international week. During this week, the different year groups will learn about different countries. They will explore their cultures and traditions. They will have opportunities to find similarities and differences with our own countries and cultures. Above all, by learning about different nations, they will have an opportunity, which will foster empathy, respect, and an appreciation for the world's rich tapestry of traditions.

On the final day of International Week, students and staff are encouraged to come to school dressed in traditional attire representing their heritage or a culture they admire. This will be a colourful and exciting celebration of our multicultural world!

Let us come together as a community to celebrate our mosaic of different cultures and create memories that will last a lifetime. We look forward to an incredible International Week!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Gonzalez



Stars of the Week



Reception – Elia for trying hard in phonics and making excellent progress.
 Year 1 – James for writing a great colour poem and for working hard.
 Year 2 – Ivan for working hard and having many creative ideas.
 Year 3 – Maximilian for lovely contributions to class discussions.
 Year 4 – Amy for excellent effort in all work and for a fantastic spring poem.
 Year 5 – Miracle for working hard on his written work.
 Year 6 – Gemma for making great progress with her writing.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 24 May	Year 6 visit to Mass <i>(leaving school at 09:00)</i>
Wednesday 24 May	Year 5 visit to the library <i>(leaving school at 13:40)</i>
Friday 26 May	Break the Rules Day
Friday 26 May	Last day of first half of term
Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June	Half term break
Monday 5 June	School closed for staff training
Tuesday 6 June	School re-opens for second half of term
Tuesday 6 June- Friday 9 June	International Week
Friday 9 June	Children may dress up for International Day
Friday 21 July	Last day of Summer Term
Monday 4 September	First day of Autumn Term

This Week's Attendance

15 – 19 May 2023	
Reception	98.7%
Year 1	98.3%
Year 2	98.6%
Year 3	97.2%
Year 4	97.0%
Year 5	98.1%
Year 6	97.2%
Whole school	97.9%



School Meal Price

We regret that we will have to increase the price of a school meal from £2.50 to £2.70 after the half term break, **from Tuesday 6th June**. The cost of meals for the second half of the term (6th June to 21st July) will be £91.80.

Message from Sr Josephine: Novena to the Holy Spirit

Friday 19th – Saturday 27th May, the Vigil of Pentecost.

Prayer intentions: Fr Mario and all Parishioners in OLHC and St. Patrick's – Lord send us your Holy Spirit – Amen

Novena Prayer: Spirit of love! Spirit of purity! Spirit of peace! Sanctify us and give us that heavenly peace which the world cannot give. Bless our Holy Father the Pope, the Church, our bishops, our priests, all Religious Orders, and all the faithful. Grant us the Spirit of Christ as we labour earnestly for the spread of His kingdom.

International Week

Each class has one country that they will be studying in depth. As well as learning about the geography, native wildlife and habitats, the children will be tasting food typical of the country and learning phrases in the language.

The particular country studied by each class has been determined by the geography curriculum.

Reception - Ireland
Year 1 - France
Year 2 - Kenya
Year 3 - Italy
Year 4 - Hawaii
Year 5 - Peru
Year 6 - Indonesia

Reflection by Canon Victor Darlington

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Look outside and see those lovely blossoms that assure us spring is here. We are experiencing new birth, renewal, and great joy.

May sits as a significant month that leans into June. Both of them are usually hectic times for our schools. Nevertheless, many delights May brings to us each year. Firstly, it invites us to celebrate the Queenship of our Mother Mary, who is very dear to her children and us. Through many difficulties when we had lost hope, she has gone to her Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ and said to him: they have no wine, and immediately we receive a litany of favours. She keeps us safe, warping us under her mantle as she comforts us.

May this year has also given us some cause to celebrate as a country when we joined in the coronation of King Charles III. I heard many schools had various events to mark the day.

In our Liturgical calendar, May this year gives us several celebrations such as the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord on Thursday 18th, and of course, the birthday of the Church on Sunday, May 28th: Pentecost Sunday, when a number of our children will be confirmed up and down our

archdiocese and country. I thank the many children I have already confirmed this month of May for completing your sacrament of initiation. May the Holy Spirit continue to fill you with His presence. Amen.

May will end with the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary on May 31st. May our Mother Mary visit you to comfort you as she did to her cousin Elizabeth when he visited her.

June will swiftly begin with the Feast of our Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest on the 1st; then the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity on 4th, Solemnity of Corpus Christi on the 11th; the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart on the 16th; Feasts of Saints John Fisher and Thomas More on 22nd; Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist on 24th; Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul on 29th.

We have a lot to celebrate and give thanks for in these two months. I pray that in all these celebrations, we will find renewed Peace and the Joy of the Holy Spirit rekindled in our lives.

God bless you.

Canon Victor Darlington

Episcopal Vicar for the Southeast Area,
Commissions for Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion,
Education and Director of Caritas, Archdiocese of Southwark