

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
19th November 2021

Wednesday word is **Leader**. "You are going to learn from the people before you can teach them anything."
Pope Francis

Dear Parents

We are already getting fully immersed in the preparations for Christmas. This year we are determined to make it really special for everyone at St Vincent's. We remember the difficult run up to Christmas we all had to endure last year; many of our children had to self-isolate and some of the activities were cancelled or modified. Therefore, this year we hope we can make up for it.

We are planning some of the traditional activities and performances as expected at this time of the year. We would like our performances to be done by individual classes rather than in Key Stages. This is with the aim to still enjoy the shows without having an excessive number of people in our hall. This way, we will be able to invite parents to come and see the plays. This will be with precautions of course; we do not want to forget our safety, but I know we can make it work. We have missed you during our performances and we feel that if we want to make it really special for children, you should be here!

We are also going to decorate our classrooms and corridors to make it as 'magical' as possible for our children. Last year some of our parents decorated the hall on the day the children had Christmas dinner and we thought the idea was excellent. So this year we want to repeat the experience.

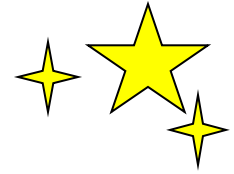
We are wondering if we can ask for some volunteers to help us decorate the school. We would of course provide all the resources, but we are always a bit 'short' of adults to carry out the tasks. If you have some time you can share with us and would like to help us, please let us know. You do not need to be terribly 'artistic'; if you are, that will be a bonus. You do not need to dedicate many hours to it, we can accommodate short bursts of time. We need volunteers to decorate the classroom doors, the hall in readiness for Christmas dinner and our corridors. I know our PTA are also looking for volunteers, so it seems that we are trying to mobilise the whole community. I know we will not be short of volunteers and for this I would like to thank you all in advance.

Mrs Gonzalez

Dates for your Diary

Year 3 Library visit	Wednesday 24 th November
Year 4 to mass	Wednesday 24 th November
Year 3 to mass	Wednesday 1 st December
Nasal Flu Vaccinations	Wednesday 8 th December
Christmas lunch	Wednesday 8 th December
Christmas Fair	Thursday 9 th December 3-5pm
Christmas jumper day	Friday 10 th December
Christmas Parties	TBC
Year 1 Nativity	Tuesday 14 th December 2pm
Reception Nativity	Wednesday 15 th December 2pm
Year 2 Nativity	Thursday 16 th December 2pm
Last day of term	Friday 17 th December

Stars of the Week



Reception – Katherine for always working hard and making her teachers proud!
Year 1 – Darcie for working hard at activities in class.
Year 2 – Tobenna for making excellent progress with writing.
Year 3 – Dora for always working hard and producing fabulous work.
Year 4 – Lawrence for working hard in literacy and focusing in class.
Year 5 – Isabella for showing great resilience and trying her best in all lessons.
Year 6 – Enzo for his excellent work on 'recycling plastics'.

Mini Vinnies

Some of our children, along with Miss Smith and Mrs Gonzalez, dropped off all the harvest contributions to the St Edward's Church Foodbank. We thank our St Vincent's families and staff for their kindness and generosity. All our contributions will help others in need.



Poppies for the Elderly

Last week the Year 4 children worked hard making poppies for a local nursing home. They have very kindly shared a picture of their display with us.



Last Week's Attendance

8 th – 12 th November 2021	
Reception	97.3%
Year 1	97.3%
Year 2	97.6%
Year 3	94.1%
Year 4	88.8%
Year 5	98.2%
Year 6	89.3%
Whole school	94.6%

★ Well done Year 5 ★
– best attendance for last week with
98.2%

Gospel Reflection

John 18:33-37

On Sunday we will celebrate the feast of Christ the King. Jesus didn't live in a palace or wear a gold crown, so what kind of king is he? Let's find out today.

Pilate asks Jesus if he is king of the Jews. Jesus answers that his kingdom is not of this world. Jesus' kingdom isn't on earth. We can't see it. Jesus doesn't wear a crown or have lots of riches. He doesn't live in a palace with lots of servants. Jesus was born in a stable and mostly lived a normal life in a carpenter's family. We cannot see his kingdom and he doesn't behave like a normal king. And yet, Jesus is a very special king, because he is the Son of God.

Jesus shows us that you do not have to be rich or powerful to be important. He shows us that what is more important is how you treat others. What we do and say is much more important than whether we are rich or poor, or where we come from.

He shows us how to welcome strangers and to be kind to people that others don't like. He shows us how to stand up for what is right and to love one another.

Pilate is confused. He couldn't understand what Jesus was saying. So he asks Jesus again if he is a king. Jesus replies that he was born to come into the world and share the truth with all people. Jesus is the Son of God. He came to share the truth of God's love for all people with us. He came to show us how to live, to teach us to help others, to love our neighbours and to share with them. And to pay more attention to what people do and say, than where they come from or what they look like.

Jesus says that all those who are on the side of truth will listen to him. We can listen to Jesus by hearing the Gospel and thinking about what Jesus is showing us in these stories. Also we can listen to Jesus when we take time to sit still and quiet and when we pray.

Sometimes it is easy to listen. Sometimes it is hard. We might not want to hear what the person is saying to us and so we do not listen properly.

This week, let's try really hard to listen carefully to everyone. And most importantly, let's try really hard to listen to Jesus, a very different kind of king, and to the truth that God loves us all.

Prayer:

Christ our King, help us to be like you, to listen to your truth and to see that all people are important, no matter who they are or where they come from. Amen.