

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
24 February 2023

Dear parents and families,

We are now in the season of Lent, when we remember that during this special time of the year, we prepare for the essence of our faith - the Lord's death and Resurrection at Easter.

St Vincent's children began their Lenten journey on Wednesday, when they received the ashes and made their own Lenten promises.

Within collective worship, we explored the Gospel and learnt that Jesus instructs us to fast, give and more importantly, pray. In school, we will concentrate on prayer. We invited our children to go to their special secret place in their hearts and be with God. Some will choose to add something to their daily lives that will bring them closer to Jesus, like extra time given over to prayer or showing solidarity in the community.

We will also talk to our children about the difficulty of staying resolute to the Lenten promises and that, sometimes, we may falter. We want them to know that, should this happen, they can keep on trying, never giving up.

I hope that by taking time from our busy lives and seeking to get closer to God, we can all learn to find a strong moral compass to help us to live our faith in the modern world.



Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Gonzalez

School Meal Payment

Payment for school meals should be made **in advance**, please. It would be helpful if you could pay for a term or half term, rather than daily or weekly, if possible. Payments made by cash or cheque should be placed in an envelope, labelled with your child's name and the amount enclosed. We cannot accept loose cash. The cost of meals for this half term is **£75**.

Messages about Absences and Collection

Please inform us **by email** if your child will be absent for any reason, or if your child will be collected by someone else.

Stars of the Week

Reception – Tomas for always being polite and respectful.

Year 1 – Yeani for always trying her best in class and working hard in numeracy.

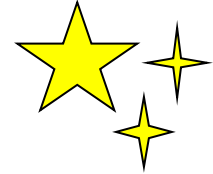
Year 2 – Sophia for great work, a good attitude and being friendly to others.

Year 3 – Amarisa for having an amazing “have a go” attitude.

Year 4 – Ambrose for excellent learning behaviour and effort in all his work.

Year 5 – Jaheim for making a determined effort with his handwriting and presentation of his work.

Year 6 – Grace for making good improvement in her maths.



Dates for your Diary

World Book Day Celebration	Friday 3 March, £1 donation
Last day of Spring Term	Friday 31 March
First day of Summer Term	Tuesday 18 April

Last Week's Attendance

6 – 10 February 2023	
Reception	93.7%
Year 1	95.7%
Year 2	95.7%
Year 3	94.0%
Year 4	95.8%
Year 5	99.4%
Year 6	96.3%
Whole school	95.8%



School Disco

Tickets for the Disco are on sale before and after school in the playground, at a cost of £5. Help from parents would be much appreciated, from 3-4pm for the Infant Disco and from 4.30-6pm for the Junior Disco, in the following areas:

- * Signing children in at the start
- * Tuck shop
- * Food counter
- * Drinks table
- * General marshalls

If you can help, please add your name to the list on the table in the school foyer.

World Book Day Celebration

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 3rd March. This will be a non-uniform day. Children may come to school either dressed up as a popular/favourite book character or wearing their own clothes, as they wish. Please bring a donation of £1.

Gospel Reflection

Matthew 4:1-11

Today we are going to hear about how Jesus spent 40 days in the desert. At the end of this time when he was tired and hungry, he was tempted with offers of bread, power and glory.

Jesus spent a long time in the desert. It is a place with very little rain, where there is no water to drink and where plants cannot grow.

After Jesus spent time in the desert, he was hungry. Then Jesus had to make some choices. First, he had the choice to either rely on God or turn stones into bread. Even though he was very hungry, Jesus chose to trust in God.

Jesus was also offered all the kingdoms of the world if he turned away from God. It must have been very tempting to choose all the riches of all the kingdoms and to have power over them. However, Jesus chose not to turn away from God.

Jesus is God's son. He knows that riches and power can never be as important as God's love.

Sometimes we can make good choices, as Jesus did. We can choose to do what is right even when it is hard. Like standing up for someone in the playground, or pointing out when others are being mean. Or sharing when we'd really like to keep things to ourselves.

We can also choose not to do something we know is wrong, even if we really want to. It takes a lot of strength to make the right choices.

We can find strength in God's love for us, in the love of our friends and family who care for us and help us, and in the food we eat to keep our bodies strong and healthy.

Lent is a time when we try to turn back to God. We say sorry for the things that we have done wrong and we try to make a change to live as God wants us to.

This is not always easy, but God's love is there to give us strength to make better choices. And the people who love us are there to support us too.

This Lent, let us think about how we can make good choices – just as Jesus did in the desert – even when we find it hard.

We pray together to God whose love gives us strength:

Prayer

Christ Jesus, give us strength as we try to make the right choices and live as you ask us to. Guide us so that we may also offer support to those who are finding things tough. Amen.