

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
25th February 2022

Dear parents and families,

During the past few days, I have been inundated with good wishes and kind words of condolences from many parents and families. It is comforting to know that in difficult times we have people around us to help us through. I appreciate all your kindness, thank you.

Next week is World Book Day, a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy of reading and the treasures and exciting adventures that books bring to our lives. We will take the opportunity to dress up as our favourite characters or maybe as the book itself! We want to invite parents also to dress up and come and celebrate with us during our World Book parade. Children and teachers will enjoy many different activities and games related to reading and we will begin the day with a display to showcase our costumes.

Importantly, also next week, we will begin the season of Lent. It is a change for everyone to pause and reflect, a time for believing and for welcoming God into our lives. It is, as Pope Francis reminded us, a time to actively seek out those in need, to offer help and share the love of God.

As we all carefully follow the news this week, we see unravelling before us worrying times, especially for our friends and neighbours in Ukraine. They need our help, regardless of politics and ideas affiliation, we can observe an injustice inflicted upon many innocent people.

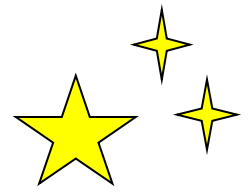
Perhaps you feel, as many of us do, powerless to do anything about it. But we can all follow Pope Francis' invitation to pray, as he says: "*...the diabolical evil of violence is answered with the weapons of God, with prayer and fasting.*"

Pope Francis is inviting everyone to make next March 2, Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting for peace.

I hope you will be able to join your prayers with ours at St Vincent's, where we will be praying the *Our Father* through the day, thinking and supporting all people suffering during the conflict in Ukraine.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Gonzalez



Stars of the Week

Reception – Marco for sharing wonderful ideas in class with confidence and always being a great help during tidy-up time.

Year 1 – Alexander for working hard at activities and giving good answers in maths.

Year 1 – Angela for working hard at activities and for amazing writing.

Year 2 – Jonathan for putting his best effort into literacy and doing some great writing.

Year 3 – Alice for always participating in class and showing aspiration in every lesson.

Year 4 – Tilly for working hard and writing a great Olympic Sport piece.

Year 5 – Beatriz for a fantastic attitude towards learning and challenging herself in numeracy.

Year 6 – Maksim for excellent maths.

Year 6 – Nathan for excellent writing.

Library visits, Masses and Class Liturgies

We confirm that we are reintroducing library visits, masses and class liturgies, as hoped. If you would like to volunteer to walk with the children to the library or to mass, please let the class teacher know. We will leave school at 1.40pm for library visits and at 9am for masses. All class liturgies will start at 9am and we confirm that parents are welcome to attend.

Parents' Evenings Reminder

Virtual meetings with teachers will take place next week. Please book an appointment to meet your child's class teacher, if you have not already done so.

Book Character Parade

To celebrate World Book Day, on **Friday 4th March** all children are encouraged to come into school dressed as a book character of their choice. They may wear their costumes all day. A parade will take place at 9am in the playground and parents are welcome to attend.

Last Week's Attendance

7 th – 11 th February	
Reception	98.7%
Year 1	98.7%
Year 2	92.4%
Year 3	95.0%
Year 4	99.1%
Year 5	95.5%
Year 6	93.7%
Whole school	96.2%



Gospel Reflection

Luke 6:39-45

Jesus talks about how we have all done things that are wrong. Instead of picking on the tiny mistakes of others, we should change the things that are not so good about our own behaviour.

Jesus is talking to the disciples – he talks about seeing a tiny speck of dust in someone else’s eye, but not seeing the great wooden log in our own. Jesus is saying it is much easier to notice the mistakes that others make, than it is to realise when we have made a mistake or done something wrong ourselves.

He says they must take the log out of their own eye before they can take the speck out of someone else’s. He is saying we must change the way we act before we can expect anyone else to change. It’s not always easy to change the way we act but perhaps we can all try this week. God can help us. If we let him, God will fill our hearts with goodness and love, hope, courage and generosity. Filled with these things, we will not be able to stop ourselves from wanting to share them with others.

Jesus says in this reading that good people have a store of goodness in their heart; that the words someone says come from what is in their heart. So if we let God fill our hearts with goodness and love, we will be able to speak words that share that goodness and love with others.

Prayer

*Generous God, lead us to be the people you know we can be. Fill us with courage and goodness. Help us to make a change so that the world may be a better place for all people.
Amen.*

Dates for your Diary

Year 2 Liturgy	Wednesday 2 nd March
Year 6 Mass	Wednesday 2 nd March
Year 5 Library visit	Wednesday 2 nd March
Book Character Parade	9am Friday 4 th March
Year 4 library visit	Monday 7 th March
Year 4 Liturgy	Wednesday 9 th March
Year 5 Mass	Wednesday 9 th March
Year 1 Liturgy	Wednesday 16 th March
Year 2 Mass	Wednesday 16 th March
Year 3 Library visit	Wednesday 16 th March
Year 5 Liturgy	Wednesday 23 rd March
Year 4 Mass	Wednesday 23 rd March
Year 2 Library visit	Wednesday 23 rd March
Year 6 Liturgy	Wednesday 30 th March
Year 3 Mass	Wednesday 30 th March
Last day of term	Friday 1st April
School closed for Easter break	Monday 4 th April – Monday 18 th April
First day of Summer Term	Tuesday 19th April