

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
25th March 2022

Dear parents and families,

This Sunday is known as Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent. We rejoice on this day; we are half way through Lent and Easter is enticingly near. During this Sunday, we pause amidst the Lenten fasts and penances and we celebrate with a glimpse of the joy that awaits us, just before we enter the solemn days of Passiontide and Holy Week.

On this day, we have double celebrations, the church celebration as well as Mother's Day. This weekend we will truly be filled with joy and festivity.

By remembering and celebrating special mothers in our lives, we say thank you for being there and we make them know how special they are. Special Mums are our mothers, grandmothers, aunties or the special woman who regularly looks after us.

We are bombarded with 'ideas' of how to celebrate the day but more important than buying a beautiful bouquet of flowers is to let that special person know they really matter.

At St Vincent's we are extending the spirit of celebration to the rest of the week. On Wednesday and Thursday our children and families will enjoy our Easter Fair. We will all relish preparing for Easter with chocolate eggs, plush toys and fun and games. Parents are invited to our Fair after school and also to our Easter Bonnet parade on Thursday morning. There are prizes for everyone and we will have special gifts for one chosen bonnet in every class.

I can picture (and I include myself in this) many parents at the weekend with the glue gun at the ready trying to get chicks, flowers and eggs to balance on a bonnet!

Have a lovely weekend!

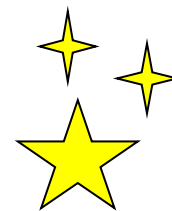
Mrs Gonzalez

Easter Mass

Easter Mass will take place in the school hall at 2.00pm on **Friday 1st April**. Parents are welcome to attend. Please enter the hall by the door at the back of the building.

Stars of the Week

Reception – Mayah for working really hard in maths this week, with telling the time.
Year 1 – Flora for producing fabulous writing full of amazing ideas.
Year 2 – Charlotte for making great progress in literacy.
Year 3 – Lainey for showing love and compassion towards everyone in Year 3.
Year 4 – Michael for excellent work in RE and for setting a great example in Mass.
Year 5 - Harry for being a fantastic role model, always listening and trying his best in everything.
Year 6 – Oliver for making an excellent effort to improve his maths and literacy skills.



Book Fair

The Book Fair will take place on **Monday 28th March and Tuesday 29th March**. Each class will be given a time slot on Monday or Tuesday to purchase books, as follows:

Monday 28 th March	Reception	1.20 – 1.40pm
	Year 1	1.40 – 2.00pm
	Year 2	2.00 – 2.20pm
	Year 4	2.20 – 2.50pm
Tuesday 29 th March	Year 3	2.00 – 2.20pm
	Year 5	2.20 – 2.40pm
	Year 6	2.40 – 3.00pm

You are welcome to attend the Book Fair with your child's class at the allocated time, or after school on either the Monday or the Tuesday, as the Fair will remain open until 3.45pm on both days. Payment may be made by cash or cheque (payable to St Vincent's School"). **We are unable to accept card payments.** If you are unable to attend, you may give money to your child in a sealed labeled envelope on the day of the Fair. Your child's teacher will look after the money until the class attends the Fair. Every child has received a £1 World Book Day voucher which can be used towards the cost of a book at the Book Fair or at a participating book store. In the past we have often been short of change, so please bring coins as well as notes, if possible.

Lost Property

We have found a large black backpack, containing a large vacuum flask. Please contact the school office if it belongs to you.

Last Week's Attendance

14 th – 18 th March	
Reception	88.3%
Year 1	95.7%
Year 2	99.3%
Year 3	97.6%
Year 4	92.4%
Year 5	96.7%
Year 6	96.7%
Whole school	95.3%



Gospel Reflection

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Today's gospel is the story known as the Prodigal Son. It's about a child who did lots of things wrong, but who went to say sorry, and so his father forgave him. Let's listen and think some more about this today.

Jesus was spending time with people who were not very popular in his time. He spent time with tax collectors, and those who others thought were doing wrong. Jesus sat down and ate with them.

Some other people complained and so Jesus told them a story. Jesus often told stories to help people better know and understand God.

A man had two sons. The younger son took his half of his father's money and went off and spent it all. After a while, there was a famine – which means that many people were hungry because there wasn't enough food. In order to survive, the son started to look after someone else's pigs. He was so hungry that he would have liked to eat the pigs' food, but no one would let him have it.

So the son set off home to see his father – to say sorry and to say that he would work as a servant in his house. When he was a long way off, the father saw his son and rushed out to meet him, giving him a big hug. The father threw a big party! He was so happy that his son had returned to him, safe and sound. The father forgave his son for all that he had done and invited everyone to a big meal to celebrate.

The elder brother was not so pleased. He was upset because he had done everything right, but his father had never thrown him a party. He was jealous of how much the father loved his younger brother. The father reminded the elder brother that he loved him very much and that everything that he had would belong to him one day.

God loves us all. When we say sorry, God forgives us for the things that we have done wrong, just like the father in this story forgives his son. God is always happy when we come back to him.

Jesus shared food with all different sorts of people. And the father in Jesus' story welcomed his son back to share in the feast, even though he had not always done the right thing.

God welcomes everyone to the feast. It doesn't matter who we are, where we come from or what we've done, we all have the right to share in the food that God has given for all people.

And we have to do our best to make sure that all people can get their fair share as well.

But let's also make a change, let's try to share more with others and work together so that all people are able to join in the feast of good food that God gives for us all.

Prayer: *God of life, you want all people to have enough to eat and to share with each other. Work through us so that this hope may become a reality. Amen.*

Dates for your Diary

Book Fair	Monday 28 th & Tuesday 29 th March
Year 6 Liturgy	Wednesday 30 th March
Year 3 Mass	Wednesday 30 th March
Easter Fair	Wednesday 30 th & Thursday 31 st March
Easter Bonnet Parade	Thursday 31 st March at 9.00am
Easter Mass in school	Friday 1 st April at 2.00pm
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