

# St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter  
4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents and Families,

I have always been grateful for my faith. It is of great comfort in any difficult time, to know that no matter how alone or helpless we may feel, we know we are always loved by God. For over two years now, we have had times when we may have felt our faith has been put to the test with persistent difficulties and bleak times. Even now, as one cloud lifts from our lives and we finally feel we can see a world coming back to normality, when we finally see that we can make plans and enjoy time with our friends and families again, we are confronted with new worldwide troubles.

But it is during these times, that we recognise and see the beauty of the kindness of people willing to go out of their ways to help ease the pain of others. Our 'Minnie Vinnies' also wanted to get involved. They have met with Mrs Hall during the week, to ask if they could organise a collection, having seen and heard the news about Ukraine.

Charlotte, Anna, Neriya, Malachi, Logan and Julian want to liaise with Father Mario and Our Lady Help of Christians to collect donations of items that will, in turn, be taken to the Polish border to help any refugees from the struggle.

I am incredibly proud of our Minnie Vinnies, as well as many other children who talked to their teachers about ideas to help. Our children have shown initiative and are turning their ideas into action. It is in fact they, who make me realise how strong our Faith is, how solid and inherent our values are. They demonstrate that difficult times strengthen us and instead of turning away, we choose to turn to God to show us our inner power.

Minnie Vinnies are asking all of us for items to donate; they have specifically asked for:  
**Long life food items and essential toiletries.**

Well done, Charlotte, Anna, Neriya, Malachi, Logan and Julian for leading us to help those in need.

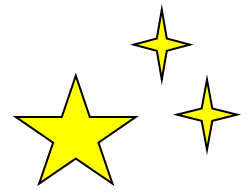
Have a lovely weekend.  
Mrs Gonzalez

## School Gate

Thank you to all parents and others for your patience with our entry gate. We have now had more than four visits from technicians to try to fix the problem, however so far they haven't managed to. The next available date for fixing it is 22<sup>nd</sup> March! Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

## Baby Brother

Sorry, with all the business in our school, I have been neglecting my baby announcements! Although this is with great delay, I would like to congratulate Luisa (Reception) and her family on the birth of baby Liam. Welcome to the St Vincent's family!



## Stars of the Week

Reception – Chimamanda for always showing kindness and compassion to others.  
 Year 1 – Gerry for working hard at activities and for being kind to others.  
 Year 1 – Juliet for fantastic writing and being helpful and polite.  
 Year 2 – Massil for working hard in numeracy.  
 Year 3 – Immy for always helping and caring for those in need of support with their learning.  
 Year 4 – Valentino for an exciting sport creation piece in literacy and working hard in class.  
 Year 5 – Grace for amazing caring qualities.  
 Year 6 – Ava for making excellent progress in her writing.

## Ukraine Appeal

As mentioned in the main body of our newsletter, Minnie Vinnies are collecting items to support people displaced from the war in Ukraine. We are collecting:

### Non-perishable food and essential toiletries

We will be collecting until Friday 18th March. Please bring your items to the school foyer. Thank you very much for your help.

## Book Character Parade

To celebrate World Book Day, the children came into school today dressed as a book character of their choice. Here are the children of Reception class and Year 2.



## Last Week's Attendance

21 <sup>st</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> February	
Reception	97.7%
Year 1	94.7%
Year 2	95.2%
Year 3	96.5%
Year 4	98.5%
Year 5	95.1%
Year 6	98.0%
Whole school	<b>96.5%</b>

★ Well done Year 4 ★  
 – best attendance for last week with  
 98.5%

## **Gospel Reflection**

*On Sunday's Gospel we are going to hear about how Jesus spent 40 days praying in the desert, to get closer to God, and to get ready for his ministry. At the end of this time he was very hungry. Let's think some more about this today.*

*Jesus goes out into the desert for 40 days to be alone and to pray. He goes to draw closer to God, to listen to what God is asking him to do and to find strength for his work of spreading the good news.*

*Lent is a time when we try to be a bit like Jesus in the desert. We spend 40 days trying to come closer to God, so that we are ready for Easter. We try to pray more and share more. We try to think less about ourselves and more about other people – our neighbours at home and around the world.*

*While Jesus was out in the desert he had hardly any food to eat or water to drink. Our world is filled with God's gifts. There is enough food for everyone, but it is not shared fairly. Many of our sisters and brothers are prevented from growing or buying enough nourishing food.*

*We talked earlier about Lent being a time for coming closer to God. We can be closer to God by praying, by asking for forgiveness for all the things that we have done wrong, and by trying to live the kind of life God wants us to. We can share with and care for others who need our help.*

*As we try to draw closer to God this Lent, we pray together:*

*Loving God,  
we thank and praise you  
for all the gifts that you have given us.  
But in a world of plenty  
too many people go hungry.*

*We pray that you may work through us,  
so our small acts of love  
make a big difference  
and everyone may have enough to eat.  
Amen.*

## **Dates for your Diary**

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