

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
11 October 2024

Dear Parents and Families,

At St Vincent's, we believe that understanding and respecting other cultures and religions is a key aspect of our Catholic faith. By learning about different faiths, we not only strengthen our own values of compassion, respect and tolerance but also foster a deeper sense of community and global citizenship in our students.

This week, our Year 5 students had the opportunity to broaden their understanding of the rich tapestry of world faiths by visiting the Al-Emaan Centre, a local mosque. They were warmly welcomed and given an insightful tour, allowing them to observe the traditions of Islam, ask thoughtful questions and reflect on the importance of respect for all places of worship. It was a fantastic learning experience and the children came away with a deeper appreciation of the similarities and differences between our faith and others.

Additionally, we were honoured to host a keynote speaker who shared with us the significance of Diwali, the Hindu festival of light. The children learned about the symbolism behind this celebration, its customs and stories and how the theme of light triumphing over darkness is shared across many faith traditions.

As part of our R.E. curriculum, learning about other faiths is crucial in helping our students grow in understanding and respect for the world around them. Next week, all year groups at St Vincent's will be dedicating time to explore a different faith, deepening their knowledge and appreciation of the diverse beliefs that shape our global community.

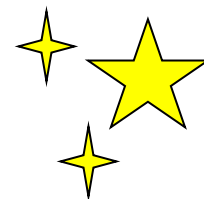
This approach aligns beautifully with our Catholic ethos and the teachings of Pope Francis, who often emphasises the importance of dialogue, mutual respect and building bridges between different cultures and religions. As a Catholic school, we are committed to living out the Gospel values, including recognising the dignity of every person, regardless of their background or beliefs.

"A culture of encounter means that we are not afraid of differences but that we welcome them as a way of growing in mutual respect." — Pope Francis

We look forward to continuing to provide meaningful opportunities for all our students to learn about and appreciate the richness of different faiths.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Gonzalez



Stars of the Week

Reception – Mark for taking his time to do his best.
Year 1 – Teddie for fantastic work and enthusiasm in science.
Year 2 – Gabriel M. for great perseverance in learning and for lovely ideas for writing.
Year 3 – Skye for a positive attitude towards learning and putting in her best effort.
Year 4 – Lucas for taking responsibility for learning and seeking to improve.
Year 5 – Elena for taking an active part in discussions about black history.
Year 6 – Logan for working hard to improve his writing.

School Value Awards

Reception – Albert for his love to others through smiles and fantastic manners.
Year 1 – Dheeraka for helping others, spreading positivity throughout the school.
Year 2 – Chloe for demonstrating love and kindness and for being ready to help.
Year 3 – Nathaniel for continuous effort to improve and reach new heights in learning.
Year 4 – Lillie for embracing tasks with curiosity.
Year 5 – Massil for knowledgeable contributions during the visit to the mosque.
Year 6 – Selena for showing compassion to other children.

Dates for your Diary

Parents and families are warmly invited to join us in celebrating Mass.

If you would like to accompany the school as we walk to Mass, please inform your child's teacher so they can coordinate the arrangements.

Additionally, the Celebration of the Word will take place in the school hall, and parents of the respective year group are welcome to attend.

Wednesday 16 October	Year 6 Celebration of the Word
Wednesday 16 October	Year 3 attendance at Mass
Wednesday 16 October	School Disco
Friday 18 October	Year 5 Library visit
Friday 18 October	Last day of first half of Autumn Term
Monday 21 Oct – Friday 1 Nov	Half Term Break
Monday 4 November	First day of second half of Autumn Term
Wednesday 13 November	Year 1 Celebration of the Word
Wednesday 27 November	Year 5 Celebration of the Word
Wednesday 4 December	Year 3 Celebration of the Word
Wednesday 11 December	KS1 Nativity
Wednesday 18 December	Reception Celebration of the Word

Term and holiday dates up to July 2025 are shown on the school website.

Autumn Disco at St Vincent's!

We're excited to announce that the Autumn Disco will be held on **Wednesday 16th October**, at the school. The **Infant Disco** will run from **3.00pm to 4.00pm**, followed by the **Junior Disco** from **4.30pm to 6.00pm**.

Tickets are priced at **£5** each, which includes entrance to the disco, unlimited squash or milk, a choice of hot snack and fruit. Every child will receive a glow stick on arrival and have the chance to take part in crafts and other activities during the event. There will also be a tuck shop selling extra treats for those who wish to purchase something extra.

Tickets for sale in the playground before and after school.

Important for KS1 Parents: If you would like your child to have extra spending money for the tuck shop, please place the money in an envelope with your child's name on it and give it to the teacher or one of the adults running the disco for safekeeping.

Additionally, KS1 children can bring a set of 'party' clothes to change into before the disco if parents wish.

We can only run these events with the help and support of our fantastic parent community. If you are able to volunteer, please add your details to the sign-up form in reception or when purchasing tickets from the playground.

This Week's Attendance

7 – 11 October 2024	
Reception	85.7%
Year 1	97.0%
Year 2	99.7%
Year 3	99.4%
Year 4	98.5%
Year 5	97.3%
Year 6	95.6%
Whole school	96.5%



Applications for Reception Class September 2025

The application process for Reception places in September 2025 opened on 1 September 2024, for children whose date of birth falls between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021.

The national closing date for applications is 15 January 2025.

The national offer date for on-time Reception applications is 16 April 2025.

If you are a Bromley resident, you should make your application through London Borough of Bromley. You can name schools outside of Bromley on your application, if you wish.

If you live outside of Bromley, you need to apply through the local authority where you live and can name Bromley schools on that application, if you wish.

In addition to the official council application, please complete a Supplementary Information Form, which can be picked up from the school office or downloaded from the school website.