

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
20 September 2024

Dear Parents and Families,

Tomorrow, we will be marking International Peace Day, and this year's theme, *Cultivating a Culture of Peace*, beautifully aligns with the learning and values we uphold at St Vincent's. This day encourages us all to reflect on how we can actively contribute to a peaceful world—something that ties in perfectly with our school's ethos.

In the coming weeks, Mrs. Hall will be leading sessions with the children, focusing on Catholic social teaching values. These values, as I have shared in previous newsletters, form the foundation of the principles we encourage our children to live by. Through these teachings, we aim to instill the importance of putting faith into action—whether that is through kindness, respect, or standing up for justice and peace.

The core Catholic social teaching values we focus on are:

- **Human Dignity** – Every person is precious, and people are more important than things. Our common humanity requires that we respect and uphold the dignity of each and every individual. Everything else flows from this dignity.
- **Common Good** – We are all responsible for each other and must work towards creating a society where everyone can thrive, respecting the rights and responsibilities of all and leaving no one behind.
- **Solidarity** – Recognising others as our brothers and sisters and actively working for their good, as we are called to support our global family.
- **Stewardship of Creation** – Caring for the gifts God has given us, including our environment, talents, and resources.
- **Participation** – Being active participants in all we do, ensuring inclusivity so that everyone can take part.
- **Subsidiarity** – Making sure decisions are made at the appropriate level, allowing all those affected to contribute and have a voice.
- **Distributive Justice** – Ensuring that everyone shares in the goods of the world, so no one is left without life's necessities.
- **Promotion of Peace** – Peace is more than the absence of war; it's about mutual respect, justice and love, leading to understanding between people.
- **Preferential Option for the Poor** – A preferential option for the poor means thinking first about the needs of the most vulnerable in society.

At St Vincent's, we place particular emphasis on the **Preferential Option for the Poor**. This aligns with the work of St Vincent de Paul, who dedicated his life to serving those in need. We hope that through learning and reflection, our children will embrace this value and become advocates for those who are most vulnerable.

We look forward to continuing this important journey with the children, helping them understand not only the significance of peace in our world but also their role in cultivating it.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Gonzalez



Stars of the Week

Reception – Andrew, for trying his best at all times. Well done for your efforts.

Year 1 – Kyrie, for demonstrating leadership qualities by encouraging classmates.

Year 2 – Amanda, for your kindness and willingness to help others and for taking pride in your learning.

Year 3 – Orion, actively listening and following instructions making you a reliable and dependable pupil.

Year 4 – Olamide, for your creativity and originality in your written work.

Year 5 – Emily, for actively listening and following instructions.

Year 6 – Thierno for actively listening and following instructions.

School Value Awards

Reception – Isiuwa, for always being kind and compassionate to her peers.

Year 1 – Amayah, for aspiring to be the best she can and motivating others.

Year 2 – Jackson, for showing a deep interest in learning and consistently striving to do your best.

Year 3 – George, for demonstrating maturity by forgiving others and moving on with a positive attitude.

Year 4 – Eliza, for your thoughtful actions that show a deep compassion for others.

Year 5 – Tobenna, for always being ready to help others spreading positivity and care throughout the school.

Year 6 – Showing a strong desire to succeed.

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.

Friday 27 September	St Vincent's Mass
Wednesday 2 October	Year 5 attendance at Mass
Wednesday 9 October	Year 2 Celebration of the Word
Wednesday 9 October	Year 4 attendance at Mass
Friday 11 October	Year 4 Library visit
Wednesday 16 October	Year 6 Celebration of the Word
Wednesday 16 October	Year 3 attendance at Mass
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. Parents welcome.
Wednesday 18 December	Reception Celebration of the Word

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

This Week's Attendance

16 - 20 September 2024	
Reception	96%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	96.6%
Year 6	100%
Whole school	98.6%



Breakfast and After School Clubs

We are pleased to inform you that the bell for our Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs is now conveniently located outside the school gate, which will be locked during club hours. This new system has been trialled over the past week and has been very successful.

Please note that the Breakfast Club staff will open the gate at 7:30, 7:45, 8:00 and 8:15. If your child requires breakfast, we kindly ask that they arrive at school by 8:00 at the latest to ensure they have enough time to eat.

Thank you for your cooperation in making this a smooth transition!