

# St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

## Lenten Activities



Dear Parents,

Lent began this week on Wednesday 22 February. Lent is a special time of prayer, penance, sacrifice and good works in preparation for the celebration of Easter. To help our pupils and families prepare during this important time in the Church's Liturgical Calendar, we are organising a range of special events.

### Mass and Liturgy Dates

- There will be a Mass in the junior department **for the children, staff and parents** on Ash **Wednesday on 22 February**. There will be a liturgy led by Mrs Lawrence's class in the infant department that parents of that class can attend.
- There will be a Lenten Service on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 6:30pm at Holy Angels Church**. This service will be led by key stage 2. Key stage two parents are welcome to attend. Younger siblings may sit with their parents.
- There will be a Lenten Mass on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March in the Infant Hall at 9:30am and Junior Hall at 9:30am**
- **Year 1 will present an Easter Service on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 9:15am** and Year 1 parents are very welcome to come along.

### Purple Wednesday

Following our St. Vincent's tradition, each Wednesday will be 'Purple Wednesday'. Pupils will be encouraged to wear an item of purple clothing. This could be an accessory such as a belt, bobble, hairband, loom band, socks or tights.

Purple is used for two reasons: firstly, because it is associated with mourning and so anticipates the pain and suffering of the crucifixion, and secondly because purple is the colour associated with royalty and celebrates Christ's resurrection and sovereignty.

### Lenten Promises

Children will be making their Lenten promises at the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. We try to think of others and focus on our thoughts and actions. Some of the children have spoken about doing this with their families too as a family Lenten promise.

### Lenten Stay and Pray

Lenten reflections for families will take place on **Friday 03 March led by Year 4 and Friday 31 March led by Year 3, both at 9am in the junior hall**. All families across school are welcome to join us.

### Lenten Prayer Journey

Children from St. Hugh's will be visiting Year 3 on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March to share a Lenten Liturgy. Our Year 3 are also visiting Holy Family School on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March for a Lenten liturgy.

### Lenten Prayer Trails

In each department there will be a Lenten prayer trail where pupils will visit prayer stations and reflect on the journey that Jesus made. Each prayer station has a different focus and children are encouraged to think, pray and respond as they become closer to Jesus during this time. As part of this trail, each child will make a very special Lenten promise.

### **Stations of the Cross**

During Lent, children will also have the opportunity to pray the Stations of the Cross. In each department, stations will be displayed for children to reflect, observe and pray.

### **Lenten Buddy**

The children will all be given a secret 'Lenten Buddy' from their class. During Lent, the children will be extra nice to their buddy and try to guess who their buddy is.

### **Lenten Fundraising**

Please see below for all of the fundraising activities that will take place during Lent. During Lent, we will be supporting The Good Shepherd Appeal, which this year is for Caritas. Caritas Family Support Service works with children, families and those in communities who are experiencing difficulties or disadvantage. To do this Caritas relies on funding to help raise some of these funds enabling them to continue their work helping those in need.

### **Friday 10 March – CAFOD Family Fast Day- £1 donation to CAFOD**

This Lent CAFOD are inviting schools to join The Big Lent Walk! CAFOD are inviting children to walk 200km in 40 days to help fight global poverty. On this day, every class will begin this challenge by completing a number of laps of our daily mile track which they will continue throughout Lent.

**Friday 17 March**– £1 donation to the Earthquake Appeal via parent pay: Silly socks day

**Friday 24 March** – £1 donation to St. Ann's Hospice via parent pay: Mindfulness activities

**Friday 31 March**- Easter egg donation to the PTA: Own clothes day

We hope to see lots of parents and grandparents join us in our Lenten journey,

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harrop