

ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs A Harrop MEd NPQH
Orchard Road
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Friday 6 May 2022

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,



MARY OUR MOTHER

May is a very special month for the Church as we remember Mary, our Mother. A full month is given over to Mary and during this month we are asked to think about Mary, say special prayers to her and make up May altars. We will also sing hymns to Mary to ask her to help us stay close to her son Jesus.

This week Reception also enjoyed a class assembly based on Mary where we also gave thanks for our mothers.

WAYS TO CELEBRATE MARY IN MAY

The ideas and resources below are to help you as a family consider how to celebrate May as the month of Mary.

- Set up a May altar in your house
- Pray to Mary each day
- Write a prayer to Mary asking for world peace
- Draw your own picture of Mary and place it in your window
- Say the Rosary together as a family
- Make your own Rosary beads or create an outdoor rosary.
- Find hymns which are about Mary and sing them with your family
- Look at stories of Mary in the Bible. Choose your favourite one and retell it in words and pictures.
- In many countries, there are special places where people visit to pray to Mary. Find out about:
 - Our Lady of Knock, Ireland
 - Our Lady of Lourdes, France
 - Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal

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YEAR 3 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

This weekend will be the first of three masses for the children in Year 3 to make their First Holy Communion. This Saturday will be Mrs McDuff's class. Please pray for our children as they receive this special sacrament.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

Mental Health Awareness Week starts on 9 May 2022. The official theme is 'loneliness' and, across the week, we encourage you to build meaningful connections with your friends, family, colleagues and communities.

Reception and Pre-School are coming together on Friday 13 May to mark Mental Health Awareness Week in form of a Wellbeing Afternoon. The Reception and Pre-School children will be focusing on the theme of 'Loneliness' and thinking about how we can all be good friends and help those who might be feeling a little sad or lonely. There are lots of exciting and fun activities planned that will require the children to work together to complete different 'challenges' such as an obstacle course, den building and creating their own friendship bracelets. We will bring the Wellbeing Afternoon to a close by sharing a story and having the Reception children show the Pre-Schoolers around the Reception classrooms and outside area, as well as hearing their stories and experiences of when they first started Reception - sharing how they felt and who helped them.

KS1 and KS2 children will also be involved in activities focussing on the theme of 'Loneliness'. The children will be taking part in many thought provoking and exciting activities such as thinking about their own meaningful connections with people close to them, and how they can help others who feel lonely. Children will also have the opportunity to create a 'class playlist' made up of songs that make them feel happy when they feel down or lonely.

Shakespeare, our therapy dog visited us this week. He will also be joining us on Monday to hear more stories read by the children.



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ROBINWOOD

This week the Year 5 children set off for their residential to Robinwood outdoor pursuit centre. The children have been very busy completing their challenges ranging from raft building to crossing the piranha pool! They have all had a wonderful time and we are sure they will sleep very well tonight after all of their activities. If you would like to learn more about Robinwood, please follow this link: <https://www.robinwood.co.uk/>



FILM NIGHT AND DISCO

Tonight is the second date for the film night and disco. Last week Year 2 and Years 5 & 6 had a wonderful time. Tonight it is Years 3 & 4's turn to watch Encanto and Year 1's will have fun at their disco. Thank you to the PTA and all those who helped on the night.



WALK TO SCHOOL

We are asking families to walk to school or park at Tesco and stride to school if they possibly can. Now the weather is getting better, we want to encourage children to walk as part of looking after their physical and emotional wellbeing.

Alternatively, please use the cycle rack and ensure those riding a bike use a helmet. The scooter rack is also available in the area outside Mr McCann's classroom.



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SUMMER 1 DATES

Day	Date	Event	Location
Friday	06 May	Y1 Disco Y3/4 film night- Encanto	Department halls
Saturday	07 May	Y3 DM First Holy Communion 10am	St Vincent's Church
Monday	09 May	KS2 SATS Week	
Saturday	14 May	Y3 CC/JJ First Holy Communion 10am	St Vincent's Church
Monday	16 May	Junior Sports Day 9:30 – 11:30 am Year 5 and 6 Sports Day 1:30pm – 3:15 pm Year 3 and 4 Sports Day	School Field – parents welcome
Tuesday	17 May	Infant Sports Day 9:30 – 11:30 am Year 1 and 2 Sports Day 1:45pm – 2:45pm Reception Sports Day	School Field – parents welcome
Thursday	19 May	Reception Class Assembly: Mrs Lawrence's Class	Infant department hall
Saturday	21 May	Y3 ES First Holy Communion 10am	St Vincent's Church
Wednesday	25 May	History enrichment day	
Thursday	26 May	Whole School Ascension Day Mass	School Field – weather permitting
Friday	27 May	Parent's reflection: 10am	Zoom
Friday	27 May	School closes for half term	



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ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS WEEK

Each week we report attendance. Please note we do not authorise holidays in term time.

Attendance Percentages	
Highest infant class attendance	Year 1 Mr McCann 100%
Highest junior class attendance	Year 4 Mrs Bullock 100%
Overall school attendance	97.3%

We work in partnership with parents. Mrs Farrell and I are very happy to answer any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harrop

Headteacher

