

Lent Term - February 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,



I hope you enjoyed a restful break with your children and families. As you will see we have been busy during the half term making improvements to our school for our children. We have a new outdoor classroom for our reception class together with artificial grass in the Early Years' garden. All grassed areas in the prayer garden have been replaced with artificial turf so that our gardeners can focus on planting and harvesting the fruits of their labours. We have extended the playing surface next to the playground so that the children can still play without going onto the grass when it is wet. We have also purchased new tables for the dining room, when I showed these to the children after assembly on Monday they were so excited that they burst into spontaneous applause.

As you will be aware Lent commenced during the half term break, in school the children from Years 3-6, will be celebrating class Masses with the parish community. Your child will be sending you an invitation to join them to celebrate their class Mass. Please look out for your invitation and if you are able to join us that would be marvelous.

Easter Reflection - Year 3 and 4

Years 3 and 4 are busily preparing for their Easter Reflection, "Roll Back the Stone" performances will be held on Tuesday 17th March at 2.30pm and Wednesday 18th

March at 6.30pm. Tickets will be available from the school office Monday 2nd March and will be priced at £1.

Collections will be taken after each performance to support the work of Keech hospice care.



Hopefully your child is collecting sponsors for our Cafod Lent Appeal which will take place next month. All money raised will support CAFOD's work and the government will match every pound we raise.

There will be a whole school Mass on Thursday 26th March and we complete our preparations for Easter on Friday 27th March at 1.30pm with the Easter story with music, we do hope you will be able to join us.

Class assemblies

Thank you to Reception and Years 1 and 2 for their most enjoyable and reflective assemblies. The children enjoyed sharing their work and ideas with the many parents and friends who attended.

We complete our class assemblies for this term on Friday 27th February 9.05am. Mrs Pavlovic and the children in Year 6 have been working very hard and I do hope you will be able to join them.

Attendance

Attendance is monitored on a weekly basis by the school and termly in our returns to the Department of Education. Attendance for the whole school to date is 96.64% whilst this is a slight improvement on last year we are still aiming higher than this so please support your child's education by ensuring that they are in school and arrive on time.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

These are available again and our collection box is located in the office. The vouchers are of real support for the curriculum last year we bought some equipment to support our cooking in school.

What's been going on at St Vincent's? Parents' Consultation Evenings



These were held at the end of the last half term and were very well attended. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us and the very positive comments that were made as people were leaving the building.

Drama

Year 5 had a thoroughly enjoyable experience watching a performance by students from All Saints, at their recent visit with the other primary schools from Houghton Regis.

Safer Internet Day



This was a great success the children produced some wonderful posters which will create a display in the library and the winners will be rewarded with prizes in celebration assembly on 27th February.

Internet Safety Workshop

Today, Year 3 have had a visit from the staff of Hazard Alley to support our work in using the Internet safely.

Cathorpe Court – PGL Payment

The final balance of £35 for PGL Residential Visit (Year 6) is due by Thursday 5th March. A letter with final details has been sent please return the forms enclosed.

What do we have to look forward to?

Arts Award Week

During the week of March 2nd- 6th we will be celebrating with an Arts Award Week, the children take part in a variety of organised art activities throughout the week.

World Book Day

We are celebrating World Book Day by dressing up as a character from a book on **Friday 6th March**. This is a day later than the official day but will allow our Year 5 children to take part as they will be swimming on the Thursday afternoon of the official day.



Writing

A group of our children across all classes will be taking part in a writing workshop with other schools from the Deanery partnership.

Singing Playgrounds

The children from Years 1 and 2 will be taking part in a six week project singing in the playground.

Food Awareness

Reception Class will be having a fruit tasting session and experience making smoothies using a smoothie bike.

Years 1 and 2 will learn all about bread and will have the opportunity to make bread at a bread making workshop.

Other food awareness sessions have been arranged for Years 3 - 6 later in the school year, details to follow.

Friends of St Vincent's PTA

The Friends of St Vincent's PTA are running a Spring Disco which will take place on Friday 20th March after school. **To ensure that these events are able to run safely and successfully parent helpers are required for both discos. If you are able to help, please give your name to the school office by 6th March.**

All children may wear their own clothes to school on the 20th regardless of whether they are attending the disco.
Tickets for the disco priced at £1 will be available from the school office from Monday 9th March
Reception to Year 2 - 3.30 – 4.15
Years 3-5 - 4.15 – 5.15pm

Enjoy the weekend with your families
With every good wish
Mrs Lake

