



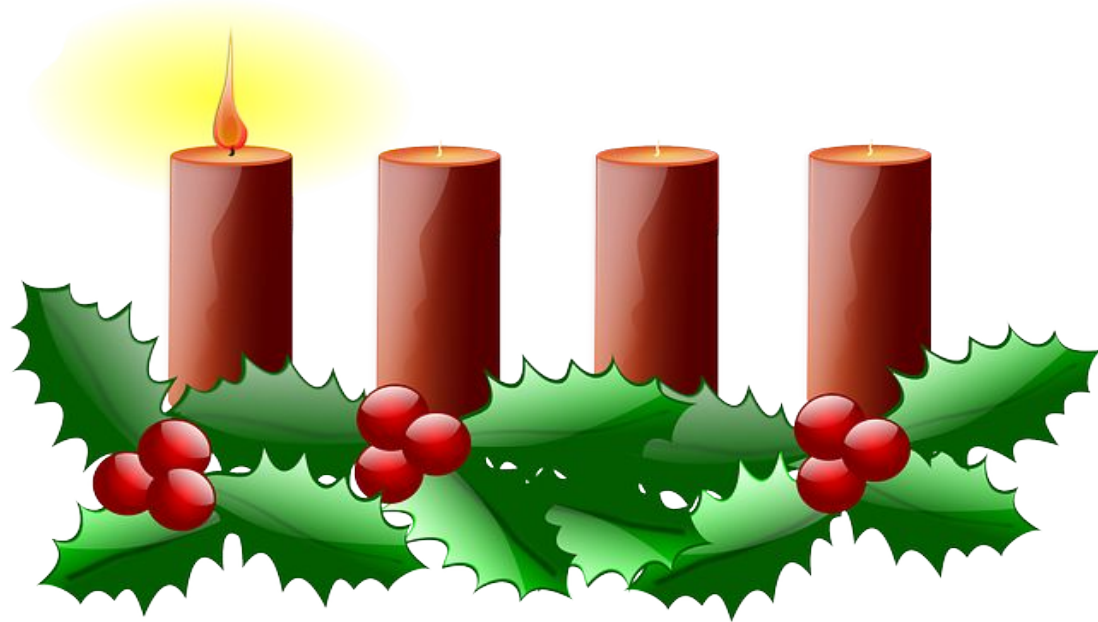
# Newsletter

**St. Vincent de Paul Primary School**  
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## Reflection

### First Week of Advent



#### Theme

“Happy are all who long for the coming of the Lord”

#### Introduction

The first candle of the Advent wreath is known as the ‘Prophet candle’. It reminds us of the prophets, those special people who spoke God’s word to the people and promised that a saviour would come.

#### Reading: Gospel

Matthew 24:37-44

The Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘As it was in Noah’s day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

‘So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

The Word of the Lord (Thanks be to God)

#### Prayer

Father, we thank you for sending us the gift of your son, Jesus. Help us during these weeks of Advent to get ready to celebrate Jesus’ birth. May we spread the good news of Jesus coming to all those we know. Amen.

#### What is Advent?

In the Catholic Church, Advent is a period of preparation extending over the four Sundays before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to," and refers to the coming of Christ. And the term the coming includes three references: first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; second, to the coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and finally, to his second coming at the end of time. **Advent is not just about encountering Jesus as a baby, it is about encountering Jesus today.**



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Principal’s Message

FETE

What a great community event the fete was last Saturday. Even before the event had started you knew it was going to be successful because of the planning which had gone into the day. Congratulations to our hard working fete committee who had worked tirelessly to have everything organised. They were well supported by the year level representatives from the Parents Association and the large number of parent and extended family volunteers who helped out on the day.

We cannot confirm at this stage the amount raised and once all costs are included we will communicate the final figure.

Although the fete is a fundraiser, it was fantastic to see how many of the school community involved themselves to work towards a common goal. This showed the strong community we have at St. Vincent’s and this was an example to the children of the benefits to the community of volunteers.

Thank you to everyone for their contribution to the fete. It is an event that children identify as a highlight of their time at the school. Even as adults they can still recall how much fun they have at their school fete.

PREP ORIENTATION

Today the 2023 Preps had their final orientation day. They met their classroom teachers and familiarised themselves with their new classroom.

TRANSITION DAY

On Wednesday December 14, children will meet their 2023 classroom teacher. Details will be sent home about the classroom teachers for 2023 on the same day.

REPORTS

The Student Reports will be available to access through the Parent Portal on Tuesday December 13. The teachers have been very busy collating data and identifying achievement levels of all students. This involves taking data from standardised testing including PAT-Maths and PAT-Reading, Fountas and Pinnell Reading Assessment and Essential Assessment. The teachers also use pre and post data from units covered as well as anecdotal notes recorded throughout the semester. This extensive data is combined to give an accurate assessment of each child’s level of learning.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

At last week’s final School Advisory Council meeting 3 new council members were appointed after submitting their Expressions of Interest. We welcome Erin Armstrong, Stephen Drill and Phoebe Mizzi to the council and look forward to them sharing their talents and knowledge with the council.

We would also like to thank Fiona Dean, Brad Evans and Sarah Metcalfe for their contribution to the council over the period they have been a part of it. Their knowledge and expertise has contributed significantly to what the council has been able to achieve during their tenure.

NATIVITY PLAY

We have a special event taking place on Tuesday December 13. The Prep children together with help from their buddies will be presenting the story of the First Christmas. The Nativity Play will take place in the church beginning at 11:45am and then again at 12:30pm.



STAFFING 2023

Many people may be aware that Emily Grindrod is pregnant and will be leaving the school at the end of this year. We thank Emily for all the work she has done in the Performing Arts curriculum and look forward to her return in the future.

Kate McKibbin has also announced she is leaving the school after accepting a position at St. Margaret’s in Maribyrnong. Kate has been at the school for 14 years and we thank her for her commitment and hard work in that time. We wish both Kate and Emily all the best.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

A reminder that the school will be closed on **Wednesday, December 7** with staff planning for 2023.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

The Graduation ceremony for the Year 6 children graduating this year will take place on **Thursday, December 8**. The ceremony will be held in the Church and will begin at 6.00pm. The Graduation Dinner will be held at Melrose Receptions in Tullamarine and will begin at 7:30pm. Siblings of students in Year 6 are able to attend the ceremony.

The children in Year 5 are also expected to attend the Graduation Ceremony (not the dinner) together with the Year 6 children who will be graduating. Year 5 has an important role to play in the ceremony and we need their support in maintaining this tradition. Please mark this date on your calendars to ensure your child is able to attend.



SCHOOL PICNIC

Our school picnic will take place on Thursday December 15. Children will walk to Woodland’s Park and be involved in a number of activities on the day. Parents are welcome to attend and each class is looking for volunteers to walk down to the park with the children.

FINAL ASSEMBLY

The Final Assembly for the year will be held at 12 noon on Friday December 16 in the hall. This will be an opportunity to farewell our graduating Year 6 children and other families who are leaving the school.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The Parents Association AGM will take place tonight **Thursday, December 1 at 7.00pm** in the staffroom.

“St Vincent de Paul School empowers students to become lifelong learners facing life with faith, hope, humility and resilience.”

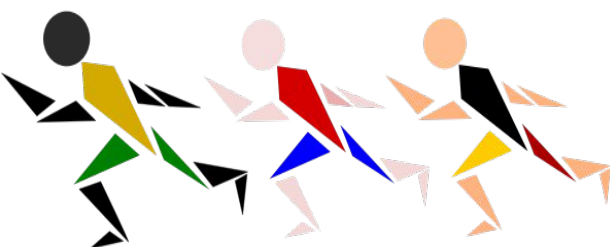


Principal’s Message (continued)

SPORTS DAY

It was third time lucky for the School Sports day which took place on Tuesday. The level of participation by the children and the enthusiastic cheering supporting teammates were good indicators as to how successful the day was. Thank you to the parents and staff who were involved on the day. It made it a memorable day for all those involved. Thank you to Michelle Graham for her work in preparing the children for their events and organising the day.

Congratulations to Walsh Team for winning the team spirit award and to Donovan Team for winning the overall points tally.



Shane Byrne  
PRINCIPAL

GEM Activity

This week the School Improvement Team met to plan for 2023 and Miss Glenton ran a GEM activity for an opportunity to practice gratitude.

By practicing daily gratitude, we rewire our brains to search for positive aspects in life. Practicing gratitude every day increases our levels of energy, helps us to feel happier and more focussed, determined and optimistic. It even helps us have a better sleep, lowers levels of anxiety and depression and we are less likely to get sick.

Leaders were asked to think about things they are grateful for based on the 5 senses.

- 1.What is a sound you are grateful for
- 2.What is a taste you are grateful for
- 3.What is something you can see that you are grateful for
- 4.What is something you can touch that you are grateful for
- 5.What is a smell you are grateful for

Responses ranged from the sound of breaking waves to the taste of fresh mango on a warm summer's day. It was interesting to learn a little more about each other.



This activity includes all elements of GEM by thinking about things we are grateful for, being mindful during the process and showing empathy by listening to the responses of others. Why not try this activity around the dinner table this weekend. You might be surprised by the answers from your family.

Miss Glenton would love to hear how families went with this activity! Please send her an email!

For more information on GEM, don’t forget to visit TRP@HOME - <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/at-home/parents/>

Walk To School Month



Walk To School Month has now concluded.

Well done to all those students who took up the challenge to walk or cycle to school.

Please place your completed Challenge Card in the box at the school office by **Tuesday 6th December**, for your chance to go in the draw for some awesome prizes.

Prizes include 10 x \$100 Vouchers for Rebel Sport and 30 x Family Passes for Ascot Vale Leisure Centre.

Awards

Please find listed below the names of those students receiving awards at the assembly on **FRIDAY 16th December**. We have reduced the awards for the final assembly due to the limited time.

THREE GOLD	Amelie Giardina	
FOUR BLUE	Angus McMahon	
FOUR GOLD	Aurelius Zhang	
SIX BLUE	Isabella Chiodo Arlo Hassed Oscar Mucic	
SIX GOLD	Daniel Connelly Lucas Ramanauskas Willow Ciantar Marc Corica	



## Reminder to Download Reports & Portfolios

## Library Books and Take Home Readers



## TERM 1

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January (Prep)  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February (Yr 1–Yr 6) – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April  
(Note: Easter 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> April)

## TERM 2

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June  
(Note: ANZAC Day – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April)

## TERM 3

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September

## TERM 4

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

## 2023 School Closure Day

- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

## Lost Property Cupboard





## Maths Assessment Student Interviews



## Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents

Maths Assessment Student Interviews will be held on **Monday 30th January and Tuesday 31st January, 2023** between **8:50am until 3:30pm** for **Year 1-6 students only**. Prep students will begin school on Monday 30th January. Therefore, Year 1-6 students will begin formal classes on Wednesday 1st February.

You can now book interviews for the times that suit **YOUR FAMILY**. Please go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

**BOOKINGS WILL OPEN** on Thursday 15th December 2022 at 8:30am  
**BOOKINGS CLOSE** Friday 27th of January at 1pm.

Booking code:

**wek2g**

Go to

[www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

Enter the school event code.

Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

**Reminder:** Please be on time for your appointment as interviews are strictly 20 mins only. Please take your child to their classroom for their interview.



Important Dates

DECEMBER 2022						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1 Second Hand Uniform Sale Prep Orientation Parents Association AGM 7pm	2 Zooper Dooper Day	3	4
5	6	7 School Closure Day	8 Year 6 Graduation	9 Zooper Dooper Day	10	11
12	13	14 2023 Transition Day	15 School Picnic	16 End of Year School Mass 10am Year 6 Assembly 12:15pm Last Day of Term 4 1:30pm finish	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day
26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve	

JANUARY 2023						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1 New Years Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Australia Day	27	28	29
30 Term 1 Commences - Preps Only	31					

FEBRUARY 2023						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1 Yr 1 - Yr 6 Commence Prep Testing	2	3 Zooper Dooper Day	4	5
6	7	8 Prep Testing	9	10 Zooper Dooper Day	11	12
13	14	15 Prep Testing	16	17 St Patrick's Day Mass Zooper Dooper Day	18	19
20	21	22 Ash Wednesday Prep Testing	23 School Closure Day	24 Year 6 Assembly Year 5 Gala Day 1 Zooper Dooper Day	25	26
27	28					

**PUPIL FREE DAY WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

On Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of December TheirCare will be running a pupil free day from the **Kirinari Centre (School Library) 7am-6pm**. To get to the Kirinari Centre you will need to walk down from the front of the school across the senior yard and down the stairs towards the office then turn left. We ask all parents to please book in ASAP so we can organise staffing accordingly otherwise we may have to cancel late bookings if we can not find staff.

A friendly reminder to ensure bookings for BSC and ASC are made **well in advance** as numbers are dramatically increasing. This will help staffing as there is an increase of educator shortage in the childhood education sector. If we cannot staff accordingly, we may have to cancel late bookings and cap sessions.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call Kirsten on 0474 007 664.

Have a great week 😊

Kirsten & Lisa