



Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 6th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a slightly different week for me, as I've had the privilege of attending the SPARK Education Summit in Dubai, joining educators and leaders from around the world to explore innovation, inclusion and the future of learning. While away, it was inspiring to observe how closely the work at St Vincent's School aligns with global conversations about equity, wellbeing, and personalised education. During my visit I remained in close contact with our senior leadership team, receiving regular updates about the progress, activities and achievements taking place across school.

House points as we end the are Ash (194), Oak (150), Elm (150).

SPARK Education Summit – GEMS School of Research and Innovation

At the summit, discussions centred on inclusive practice, student voice, and preparing young people for an evolving world. I was proud to share examples of our work — from advances in braille technology, to our Education Nature Park and the way we embed independence and wellbeing into daily practice. It was a powerful reminder that the thoughtful, specialist approach we take here at St Vincent's School truly matters — and stands confidently alongside international best practice.

Careers Day

Next week we will be hosting our Careers Day at St Vincent's on Thursday 12th February, which promises to be an exciting and inspiring event for all our pupils. Throughout the day, we'll welcome a range of guest visitors and employers, giving our children and young people the opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations about different pathways, professions, and future aspirations during our carousel-style sessions.

Events like this play an important role in broadening horizons and supporting preparation for adulthood. Parents and carers can also now access our Gatsby Benchmarking evaluation results by visiting the school website under Personal Development – Careers and Guidance, where you'll find further details about our careers programme and ongoing development in this area.

Mr. Miller – school fundraising initiatives

We're incredibly proud to share that Mr. Miller is currently taking on an extraordinary personal challenge — completing 15 races in 15 months, including the iconic London Marathon. This is a remarkable commitment of time, energy and determination, and we're hugely grateful for the way Mr. Miller continues to represent the St Vincent's spirit both in and beyond school. We wish him every success as he takes on each event, and we'll be sharing updates and fundraising links via the school website and our social media channels so that our community can follow his journey. Good luck, Mr. Miller — we're all behind you!

PTA

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the work of our PTA and the wider life of the school. As we move into the next half-term, we'll be reviewing upcoming events and identifying new opportunities for families to get involved. Strengthening the partnership between home and school remains incredibly important to us.

Headteachers Hot Chocolate

This week's Headteacher's Hot Chocolate was awarded to Aiden, in recognition of the fantastic progress he has made in Braille and the dedication he continues to show in his learning. Aiden has been working exceptionally hard during his independence sessions, demonstrating focus, resilience and a real determination to improve his skills. It has been wonderful to observe his confidence grow alongside his achievement. Well done, Aiden!

Wishing all staff, pupils, parents and carers restful weekend.

Mr D Swanston

Headteacher