



Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 8th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although shortened by the Bank Holiday, this week has brought another strong sense of momentum across St Vincent's, as pupils have continued to approach the Summer Term with enthusiasm and maturity. Although the sunshine has largely eluded us this week, pupils have continued to make the most of every opportunity to engage positively in lessons, work collaboratively with others and contribute fully to school life both indoors and outside.

It has been encouraging to see pupils showing resilience, independence and a real commitment to doing their best in all areas of school life. Staff continue to work closely with children to help them grow in confidence and make strong progress, and this has been reflected in the calm, purposeful atmosphere around the school throughout the week.

Current house point totals are: Ash – 269, Oak – 274 and Elm – 222.

Welcome Miss Robinson

On Tuesday, we were able to welcome Miss Robinson to St Vincent's as a new member of our Learning Support team. She will be working closely with staff and pupils across the school to provide targeted support and help ensure that every child is able to access their learning with confidence and success. We are delighted to have her join the St Vincent's community and know she will be a valued addition to the team.

Musical developments

Last week saw the launch of private instrumental lessons for some of our pupils. Alan, the visiting music teacher, was extremely impressed by how quickly the students engaged and how confidently they began to explore both guitar and drums. We are very proud of their enthusiasm and willingness to take on a new challenge. Mrs McLaughlin will be sharing further information next term for any pupils who may wish to begin lessons in September.

We were also delighted to receive a generous donation to the music department yesterday, including a synthesiser, portable drum kits and a piano. This fantastic range of electronic equipment will be a valuable addition to both curriculum lessons and enrichment sessions,

and we are very much looking forward to putting it to use. A huge thank you to Resonate Music Hub for their kindness and support — it is greatly appreciated.

Outdoor life at St Vincent's

Outdoor life across the school is in full bloom, with a range of exciting developments taking shape. The chicken coop is now nearing completion and will soon be ready to house our eight new chickens, while the sensory meadow is thriving in full bloom, creating a vibrant and calming space for pupils. Our sensory pond structure is now complete, and the outdoor sports facilities are being well used as we prepare for the upcoming Panathlon Athletics Championship on 21st May. It has been fantastic to see these areas coming to life and being enjoyed across the school community. You can now keep up to date with all of these developments via our new Instagram account – please see the link below.

<https://www.instagram.com/stvincentsschool12>

Y10 History visit

Year 10 pupils, who have been studying The Liverpool Blitz as part of their WJEC History course, recently visited Anfield Cemetery on the anniversary of the May Blitz to pay their respects to those who lost their lives during the bombing raids. As part of the visit, pupils laid a thoughtful floral tribute made from wildflowers grown in our school grounds. A particularly moving moment was the opportunity to meet their niece, Janet, who spoke to pupils about the lasting importance of remembrance and reflection.

The visit provided a powerful opportunity for pupils to reflect on key British values, including respect, tolerance, individual liberty and mutual understanding, while also deepening their appreciation of the resilience and community spirit shown by the people of Liverpool during one of the city's most challenging periods.

Library updates

We are now moving into the second phase of our library refurbishment, building on the initial improvements already made to develop a fully inclusive and immersive space for pupils. The aim is to create an environment where all students feel inspired to read, work independently, and take greater ownership of their learning. These further enhancements will continue throughout the summer term, with the space expected to be ready for the start of the new academic year. There are exciting times ahead as we continue to strengthen our whole-school focus on reading and literacy.

Residential Independence

Our residential students have been continuing to develop their independence and habilitation skills through practical, everyday experiences. This week, they enjoyed preparing their own pizzas for tea, making choices and taking responsibility for each stage of the process. They have also been working on building confidence in the mornings by making their own breakfasts as part of an increasingly independent routine. These opportunities are helping students to strengthen essential life skills in a meaningful and engaging way.

Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable weekend ahead.

Mr D Swanston

Headteacher