



## **Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the week, the festive atmosphere across school is really beginning to build — but alongside the glitter and rehearsals, there's also been a huge amount of hard work, teamwork, and achievement to celebrate. From outdoor adventures to sporting success and creative performances, this week has been full of moments that capture the spirit and strength of our school community.

### **Visits from Local Authorities**

This week I was pleased to welcome representatives from several Local Authorities to St Vincent's School. During their visit, they toured the site, observed learning in action, and had the opportunity to meet and have lunch with some of the incredible young people we support. It was a valuable chance to showcase the inclusive, specialist provision we offer here, and to highlight the strengths, talents and progress of our pupils. I'm always proud to open our doors and share the difference our community makes every day.

### **Developing our School Climate Action and Sustainability Plan**

This term, we've continued to build on our School Climate Action and Sustainability Plan, aligning with the Department for Education's strategy to embed sustainability across the curriculum, estate, and wider school culture. With support from the Ministry of Eco Education, we've been reviewing our long-term goals and identifying meaningful ways to further involve pupils in climate learning and action. Our biodiverse, nature-rich school grounds — from the wildflower meadows to our developing pond and glamping site — are central to this work, offering rich, hands-on opportunities for pupils to explore ecology, environmental science, and responsible stewardship. We're proud to be creating a learning environment that not only educates but empowers young people to shape a more sustainable future.

### **School PTA**

Due to the very busy festive period, the next PTA will be scheduled for January 2026. I will write to all parents and carers in due course with some proposed dates. Again, on behalf of

all the staff here at St Vincent's, I would like to thank you all for your support and contributions.

### **Random Acts of Kindness**

This week, like all weeks, we've been reflecting on the importance of kindness, especially those small, everyday gestures that make a big difference. Across school, pupils have been quietly showing support for one another — from primary pupils welcoming a new peer into their class for assessment, to our older students offering support in residential and acting as paired buddies at break and lunchtimes. These acts may seem small, but they reflect the deep care and sense of community that defines St Vincent's School. We're incredibly proud of the compassion and empathy our young people continue to show as our tree continues to grow.

### **Outdoor Education**

Today was the the second and final visit to the Knowsley Adventure Centre, and although I was unable to attend, the buzz of excitement at reception this morning was unmistakable as pupils and staff set off, full of excitement. From all the stories shared on their return, it's clear they had a brilliant time — taking part in a range of outdoor activities. Thank you again to the staff and the team at the KAC for offering this wonderful opportunity for our pupils.

### **Headteachers Hot Chocolate**

Today I was joined by last week's winner Frankie-Jo and Harry, who was this week's Golden Ticket winner. Harry was nominated by staff for his commitment to his physical activity and helping others to be more active during break and lunch basketball sessions. Harry has also been co-planning with staff a mini Park Run / Walk route in our school grounds. Very well done, Harry!

Wishing all a restful weekend.

Mr D Swanston

Headteacher