



Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 30th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another wonderful and positive week here at St Vincent's, with so many examples of pupils engaging brilliantly across school life — from lessons and enrichment, to residential and wider community activities. There's a strong sense of momentum as we move through the term, and it's been a real pleasure to observe pupils taking pride in their achievements, supporting one another, and embracing all the opportunities on offer. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

House points as we end the are Ash (154), Oak (137), Elm (139).

Further updates to learning spaces

I'm pleased to share that a number of exciting learning space updates are now underway across school. Work has begun on the refurbishment of our ICT classroom, creating a more modern, accessible and engaging digital learning environment. Updates are also taking place in our school youth club, with new resources and spaces being developed for pupils to enjoy during social time. Moving ahead, further improvements are being planned for our science and food technology departments to enhance practical learning and support curriculum delivery. We will continue to keep all pupils and staff fully informed as plans progress, and we're working hard to ensure that any disruption to learning is kept to a minimum.

Residential Yoga Sessions

Our residential yoga sessions continue to go from strength-to-strength, offering pupils a calm and mindful way to unwind at the end of the school day. I've heard such positive feedback from pupils who say it helps them feel relaxed, focused and ready for the rest of the week. It's also been especially pleasing to see young people choosing to take part as part of their extended evening activities, showing growing interest in wellbeing and self-care. A big thank you to staff for supporting these sessions.

Calvert Trust Preparations

Planning is now well underway for our exciting summer residential trip to the Calvert Trust in the Lake District. Groupings and initial arrangements have begun, and we're looking forward to offering pupils a memorable experience filled with adventure, teamwork and outdoor learning. From canoeing to climbing, and bushcraft to zipwires, there's something for everyone — all in a supportive and fully inclusive setting. All pupils involved will receive updates in the coming weeks, including details about activities, kit lists and travel. It promises to be one of the highlights of the year!

PTA – Friday 6th February

A reminder to all parents and carers that our next PTA meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday 6th February at 10 am here at school. This is a great opportunity to hear updates, share ideas, and help shape upcoming events and projects. I warmly welcome both new and returning members — your support makes a real difference!

Headteachers Hot Chocolate

This week's Headteacher's Hot Chocolate was awarded to Katie-Ann, who was nominated by staff for her exceptional kindness and empathy. When her friend returned to school after an operation, Katie-Ann went out of her way to make her feel welcome, supported, and included — from helping her settle back into routines to simply being there with a smile and a listening ear. Her actions may have seemed small, but they made a big difference, and reflected the very best of the St Vincent's spirit. Well done, Katie-Ann — you've shown true friendship and compassion.

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

Mr D Swanston

Headteacher