



Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter the second-to-last week of the academic year, there is a real sense of reflection, celebration and anticipation across St Vincent's. The summer term has been filled with memorable experiences, achievements and opportunities for our pupils, and it has been wonderful to witness the confidence, independence and resilience that they continue to demonstrate on a daily basis.

Whilst many pupils are already beginning to think about the summer holidays, there remains a great deal of learning, enrichment and excitement taking place across both school and residential provision. The atmosphere around school continues to be incredibly positive, with pupils embracing the final weeks of term and making the most of every opportunity available to them.

Transition Arrangements

This week, we were pleased to finalise our Year 6 and Year 7 transition arrangements ahead of next week's Transition Week. A great deal of planning has taken place to ensure that pupils are well prepared and supported as they move into their new classes and begin the next stage of their educational journey. Transition Week provides an important opportunity for pupils to meet new classmates, spend time with their new teachers and become familiar with new routines and learning environments.

We know that periods of transition can bring both excitement and uncertainty, and we are committed to ensuring that every pupil feels confident, supported and ready for the year ahead. We can't wait to welcome pupils into their new class groupings next week and helping them take their first steps towards another successful academic year.

Class Visits

Over the course of this week, I have thoroughly enjoyed spending time visiting classrooms and dropping into a variety of lessons across the school, including our swimming sessions. These visits provide a valuable opportunity to celebrate the hard work taking place each day and to observe the progress pupils are making in their learning and personal development.

It has been particularly pleasing to note the confidence, engagement and determination demonstrated by pupils, whether in the classroom, around the school or in the pool. Moments like these provide a powerful reminder of the journey that many of our young people have made throughout the year and the positive impact of the support, encouragement and high expectations that exist across St Vincent's.

Headteacher's Q5

This week, I continued with my Headteacher's Quick 5, spending time speaking with pupils from across the school about their learning, wellbeing and experiences at St Vincent's. These conversations remain an important opportunity to gather pupil voice and hear directly from our young people about what is working well and where we can continue to improve. It was encouraging to hear pupils speak so positively about their lessons, friendships, enrichment opportunities and preparations for the final weeks of term. The insights gained through the Quick 5 continue to play an important role in helping us shape the future development of the school and ensure that pupils remain at the heart of everything we do.

Science Lab

I am pleased to share that plans for our new Science Lab continue to progress well, with work now being finalised ahead of pupils returning after the summer holidays. This exciting development represents a significant investment in the future of teaching and learning at St Vincent's and will provide pupils with an enhanced environment in which to explore, investigate and develop their scientific knowledge and skills. The new facility will support a more hands-on approach to science, creating additional opportunities for practical learning and discovery. We are incredibly excited about the positive impact this new space will have on the curriculum.

Summer Camp 2026

I am delighted to share that all residential places for our 2026 St Vincent's Summer Camp have now been filled - reflecting the continued popularity of this fantastic opportunity. There are, however, still a limited number of day places available, and we would encourage families who may be interested to contact the school for further information.

Our Summer Camp continues to provide pupils with opportunities to develop confidence, independence, friendships and new experiences in a supportive and familiar environment. It is also pleasing to report that the impact of our annual Summer Camps will be featured in this month's edition of SEN Magazine UK, highlighting the positive difference the programme continues to make to the lives of children and young people who attend.

Fun Day

We rounded off the week with our annual Fun Day, welcoming parents, carers and families into school for a morning of celebration, activities and community spirit. The event provided a wonderful opportunity for families to spend time together, enjoy the many attractions on offer and celebrate another successful year at St Vincent's. It was fantastic to experience

such a positive atmosphere across the school, with pupils, staff and families coming together to enjoy the occasion.

Events such as these are an important reminder of the strong sense of community that exists at St Vincent's, and I would like to thank everyone who attended and helped make the morning such a success.

As we come to the end of another busy and successful week, I would like to thank our pupils, staff, families and wider school community for their continued support throughout what has been another positive and productive term. With only a short time remaining before the summer holidays, there is still much to do, and I know pupils will continue to make the most of the opportunities ahead.

I hope everyone has the chance to enjoy the continued spell of good weather, spend time with family and friends, and enjoy a well-deserved weekend. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of St Vincent's School.

With best wishes,

Mr D Swanston

Headteacher