

# St. Vincent's School Autumn half-term newsletter

Love, Live, Learn, Grow

#### **Upcoming dates**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November** Pupils return to school

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November** Merseyside Fire Service visit to St. Vincent's

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November Community Park Run at Croxteth Park

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** Parent/carer and student Fun Day – details TBC.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** Pupils Christmas Lunch

#### Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

School Christmas Performance – 2pm & 7 pm performances

Please note other dates/events will be added to the school diary. All parents/carers will be notified in advance.

## Principal's message

Dear parents and carers,

I'm delighted to welcome back all staff and pupils for what will be another exciting academic year here at St Vincent's School. I would also like to extend this to our new students who have joined us for their very first half-term – it's been wonderful to hear how quickly you have all settled into school life – and I look forward to hearing more as the year progresses.

We've recently had staff take on new professional roles within school – and I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all the best of luck. All parents and carers have recently been updated on these positions.

After another hugely successful Tatton Park Flower Show and Summer Camp over the break – this half-term has already started with many success stories to share. This new half-termly newsletter will aim to keep you up-to-date with life at St Vincent's School, key events and messages. It's been a very busy half-term!

As always, you can also keep up-to-date with all things at St Vincent's School by following us on *X* **@StVincentsL12** 

If you would like a copy of this newsletter in braille and/or large print, please contact the school office: <a href="mailto:office@stvin.com">office@stvin.com</a>. Audio versions can also be provided with notice.

Have a wonderful half-term break.

Best wishes,

Dr. J Patterson



#### Tasha Jonas visits St Vincent's School

Thank you to Tasha Jonas who visited school to provide staff and students with an inspirational speech followed by a boxing master class.

Students heard from Tasha who talked about her road to success, working hard and never giving up on your dreams.

Thank you again Tasha – and we look forward to welcoming you back to St Vincent's School again in the near future.



# Residential get creative in the kitchen!

It's been a very busy start to the new academic year for the residential students. From developing their Key Working Sessions (KWS) to planning their extended evening activities – there has been little time to rest.

Students have also been working very hard in the kitchen – preparing their own meals and planning some spooky recipes for Halloween using ingredients from the school allotment.

You can find out more residential news by using the link on the school website.



## Mr. McSorley's 100 mile run challenge

Mr. McSorley will be completing a 100 mile run to raise funds for school and awareness of visual impairment. Full flyer attached to the newsletter.

You can follow Mr. McSorley's progress throughout the day – or why not join us at the park.

Thank you to all who have donated so far – and the very best of luck Mr. McSorley!



## Primary learn about the history of West Derby

This half term, the Primary department have been learning about the local history of West Derby and the wider Liverpool area.

We have had a couple of wonderful trips to enhance our learning beyond the classroom, including a visit to West Derby village to explore some of the Grade Listed properties; a visit to where a castle once stood, and also a trip down the River Mersey on one of the Dazzle Ferries. What a pleasant lunch we had that day!

#### **Blind Awareness Month**



The month of October is blind awareness month. This year we teamed up with Open Awards to raise awareness with staff at their main offices in Speke.

Emily and Emilio joined the Open Awards staff for the morning to discuss a range of topics including accessing the curriculum, mobility and independence, braille and accessing leisure activities.

Well done to both Emily and Emilio for your contributions!



## Thank you to Lloyds Bank and their team!

A BIG thank you to Lloyds Bank and their team who spent the day in school volunteering to paint and re-decorate our school Youth Club – students are already planning for new items to be added.

We look forward to welcoming you back soon to find out more about how we're using the space.



## **Nobody Finishes Last at Park Run**

We continue with our half-termly community Park Run and walk where all students, parents and carers are welcome to join in. Croxteth Hall is the event of choice – but other locations are being planned.

If you can't join us for a run or walk – why not join us for a coffee after.

The date for the next event is Saturday 18th November.



# An invite from No. 10 Downing Street

This year Pearson will celebrate 25 years of the National Teaching Awards. School was delighted to be invited to 10 Downing Street on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October - Mr Swanston attended to meet staff, judges and ministers of education to share all the wonderful work that goes on at St Vincent's School.

We wish all this year's finalists the very best of luck.



#### Meet the staff: Miss Johnston

Each half-term we'll be introducing you to members of our amazing staff team to learn a little more about them, and what they do here in school - including a few questions from the students themselves!

Hi, my name is Jodi and I'm a new member of the residential care staff. I started my new role in September.

My favourite food is a roast dinner.

In my spare time I like to go on long walks with my dogs, have Harry Potter marathons and draw. I also like spending time with friends and family.



## A message from the Head Girl

Hi, my name is Emily and I am the school Head Girl for the 2023/24 academic year.

My role in school involves arranging the School Council meetings; listening to student's voice, meeting prospective students, parents and sometimes even providing tours of the school.

I look forward to writing regularly for the school newsletter and sharing information and updates with you.

Emily.



# **School Parent Teacher Association (PTA)**

We are excited to revive the St Vincent's PTA and welcome any ideas and help so we can work together with the school to help with fundraising and start social events for parents/carers and the children to bring everyone together.

If you would like to join Mel (Emilio's Mum) and Sarah (Leighton's Mum) in the new PTA then please email: stvincentspta@myyahoo.com

We have a few ideas such as "silent disco for the children"; quiz nights can be on zoom or at school, coffee morning, and a "Bake Off"....



#### **RHS Awards**

Congratulations to all staff and students who continue to be involved in the RHS School and Community Awards. From the school grounds and allotments, to wider community activities - your impact is making a real difference.

This was recently celebrated with not one, but three RHS Awards for your outstanding work.

Congratulations again to all.