



## St. Vincent's School Summer Newsletter

Love, Live, Learn, Grow

### Headteacher's Message

As we reach the end of a busy and rewarding Spring term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a period full of growth, opportunity and achievement across St Vincent's.

This term has truly captured the spirit of our school community. From the continued development of our curriculum and enrichment offer, to the wide range of experiences both in and beyond the classroom, it has been a term where our pupils have flourished. Highlights have included sporting successes such as the Merseyside Swimming Gala and football fixtures, alongside exciting opportunities like the Para Laser Talent ID Day at LJMU, which continues to strengthen our growing links with the university and open new pathways for our pupils.

Our commitment to providing rich and meaningful experiences has been evident throughout the term. Educational visits, including the Year 10 trip to Blackpool, and in-school workshops such as those delivered in partnership with the Museum of Liverpool, have brought learning to life. Meanwhile, projects such as the development of our school orchard and wider Education Nature Park work continue to enhance our environment and provide valuable opportunities for hands-on learning.

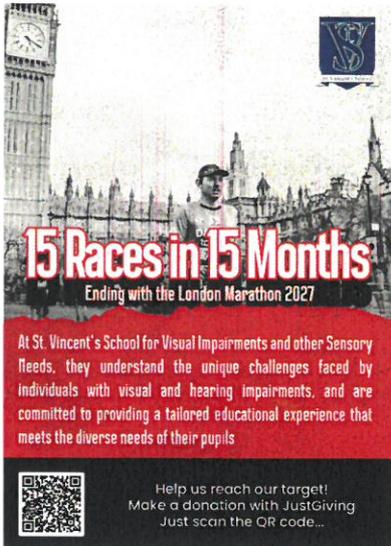
It has also been fantastic to observe the continued growth of pupil voice and creativity, particularly through Equal-Eyes-Radio and wider expressive opportunities across the school. These platforms not only celebrate our pupils' talents but also ensure their voices remain central to our school community.

Alongside this, we have continued to strengthen our wider provision, including the exciting developments around our weekend residential offer, which will further enhance the experiences and independence of our children and young people.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and commitment of our staff, the support of our families, and the enthusiasm of our pupils. I would like to thank you all for your continued partnership and contribution to school life.

As we head into the Easter break, I hope this provides an opportunity for rest, reflection and time with family. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for what promises to be an equally exciting Summer term, with events such as our upcoming Open Day and Northern Flowerhouse Schools Day already on the horizon.

Wishing you all a peaceful and enjoyable Easter.  
Mr. D Swanston,



### 15 races in 15 Months

Hi, I'm Mr Miller, I work at St Vincent's as a Primary/PE Teacher and in January this year I started a 15-month long challenge to raise £2k for St Vincent's School. Although the races are the highlights of this challenge there is also a lot of training that goes with it all. So far, I am 3 races into my journey. The challenge which includes some 10k races, Half Marathons and The Great North Run in September, will end in April 2027 with The London Marathon being the big finale.

If you could support me on this journey in any way possible it would be really appreciated.

Here are a few ways in which your support could help me:

- If you would like to keep up with my journey, I have created a TikTok, and an Instagram account both named @chasinpbs, feel free to follow me and interact, share and like my posts.
- If you would like to Donate monetarily you can use the QR code or type in "15 Races in 15 Months" on the Just Giving website or app to find my page.

Thank you for your support - Mr Miller.



### Freely Fruity

Primary teamed up with Freely Fruity to add 3 apple and 2 pear trees to our school orchard. They had a great time helping the Freely Fruity team and each tree has been named after the pupil that planted it.

Josh, Oscar, Jacob, Ziggy and Arthur

Well done boys!



### Geography Trip

As part of their WJEC Geography unit in Tourism, the entire Year 10 took a field trip to Blackpool to observe a popular UK tourist destination as part of their assessment criteria. Unfortunately like many British holidaymakers we were hampered by the bad weather but that didn't stop the pupils enjoying the arcades. During their visit to the arcade, pupils evaluated how accessible the environment was for visually impaired users, while also enjoying the rich sensory experience of the lights, sounds and interactive games.



### Maths

Year 8 enjoyed lots of practical maths lessons this term. They designed their own maths board games and brought them to life outside. They measured area and perimeter using tactile shapes and braille Lego bricks.



### Careers Day

Our recent Careers Day was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to explore a wide range of future pathways and gain valuable insight into the world of work. We were delighted to welcome a variety of guest speakers, including former pupil Matt Pounder from the Premier League, representatives from MAPD Law Firm, Hannah from Ministry of Eco Education, and Becki from Smart School Councils. Each visitor took part in a careers carousel, answering thoughtful questions from pupils and sharing their experiences, journeys, and advice.

In the afternoon, pupils took part in a series of engaging in-house work experience activities. These included practical tasks in computing, the food industry, sports, maintenance, gardening and reprographics, allowing pupils to develop skills and gain a real taste of different career areas. The day was both inspiring and informative, helping pupils to better understand their future options and the skills needed to succeed.

If you want any more information about Careers or work experience opportunities for your child, please contact Mr. McSorley



### St Patrick's Day celebrations

Our annual celebration of Irish culture on St. Patrick's Day was once again a memorable and enriching event, marking the fifth year of recognising the strong and historic links between Liverpool and Ireland. The day highlighted the importance of cultural heritage while providing pupils with inspiring experiences and performances.

We were proud to continue our partnership with the University of Liverpool Irish Institute, welcoming guest speaker Donal Manning, who delivered an engaging talk on the renowned author James Joyce, with a particular focus on his experiences as a visually impaired writer.

Our pupils played a central role in the celebration. Alfie Wain delivered a thoughtful reading of poetry by W. B. Yeats, showcasing both confidence and appreciation for Irish literature. We were also delighted to welcome guest accordion player John O'Hare, whose performance brought a lively and authentic atmosphere to the event.

The celebration concluded beautifully with Tom Matthews performing a heartfelt rendition of *The Parting Glass*, providing a fitting and emotional end to the day. We were further honoured by the presence of The Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Barbara Murray, whose attendance made the occasion even more special.

Overall, the event was a wonderful celebration of culture, community, and talent, continuing a valued tradition within our school.



### New Chickens

After the Easter break, we will be welcoming some new ladies to the school.

Thanks to an incredibly kind donation from the Christ the King Parish, we will be bringing 8 hens onto the site to provide the students with an opportunity to engage in practical animal care activities. We are also expecting an abundance of fresh eggs (though not chicken nuggets as has been suggested by some) Also, a huge thank you to Richard from Willow Farm Poultry for building the coop to our specifications and providing invaluable advice and the resources to get us started.

There will be competition sent home over the holidays to name the new arrivals, the chosen names will receive a prize so get thinking about original and interesting names for the St. Vincent's hens.



### School Council

Our School Council has been actively involved this term, meeting regularly with Mr. Swanston to discuss a wide range of important topics across the school. Pupils have shown great maturity and responsibility in sharing their ideas and representing the views of their peers.

Key discussions have led to important decisions around dining room etiquette, helping to create a more positive and respectful environment for everyone. The council has also played a valuable role in shaping ideas for our newly refurbished Youth Club, ensuring it is a welcoming and enjoyable space for all pupils.

Looking ahead, excitement is building as the council has also been involved in plans for the arrival of our very own school chickens—an initiative that pupils are keen to support and be part of. Overall, the School Council continues to be a strong voice for pupils and an important part of school life.



### Laser Run

St Vincent's have recently joined up with LJMU to promote a brand-new Olympic sport, Laser Run!

We had a visit from Nicola Robinson (a tutor from LJMU and leader of North West Pentathlon hub @nwpentahub) on Friday 5th March who gave the pupils a crash course in Laser Run. The pupils had a blast...literally!

Following this visit the pupils were invited to a laser run talent ID day held at LJMU university on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March to try their hand at the sport again. Fun was had by all participants; we could have a few future Olympians on our hands.

Watch this space for more Laser Run activities in future.



### Swimming Gala

This week some of our pupils took part in the Annual Merseyside Schools Swimming Gala. This event is always well-received by pupils and all represented the school with pride.

During assembly today we presented all swimmers with their certificates and medals as the whole-school celebrated their achievement.

Well done to all swimmers!



### World Science Week

Our pupils had a wonderful time taking part in World Science Day! The day was filled with fun, exciting and engaging activities designed to spark curiosity and inspire a love of science across the school.

From hands-on experiments to interactive demonstrations, every pupil had the opportunity to explore the wonders of science in ways that were accessible and enjoyable for all.

A huge thank you to Mrs Cooney for organising such a fantastic day.



### World Book Day

Our primary pupils had a brilliant time celebrating World Book Day! The day was packed with imaginative activities that brought the joy of reading to life. Pupils enjoyed dressing up as their favourite characters, exploring new stories, and taking part in creative challenges that celebrated the power of books.

It was wonderful to see so many enthusiastic young readers engaging with literature in such exciting ways. A huge thank you to all our pupils for their fantastic participation and for making the day such a success!