

### Summer Newsletter 2018

#### **Principals Message**

It's been another exciting year at St. Vincent's engaging a range of Creative and engaging activities both in support of the National Curriculum and in providing wider opportunities for our pupils. The list of activities has been extensive, from working with American band East of Eli and our own Charlie Landsborough to ceramics and O2 mobile phone gurus. If you are not on there already, please do follow how we are creating vocational strategies within the curriculum on twitter @stvincentsL12 and @sightboxuk.

I hope you will all have a wonderful summer and I look forwards to the next academic year. We shall be hitting the ground running by presenting the ceramics made by our pupils to the City of Liverpool at St. George's Hall and in London to the Houses of Parliament as we connect with the Great War commemorations. It is here we are highlighting our pupils creative and entrepreneurial strengths and abilities connected with leaving a lasting legacy for those who lost their sight in the War. I do hope you will follow our pupil stories as they unfold on Twitter and on the school internet radio station. Two new areas of development and ones to specifically follow will be that of 'supported internships' and 3D printing with the Victoria and Albert Museum

Dr JA Patterson Principal



## Whats Been Happening in School

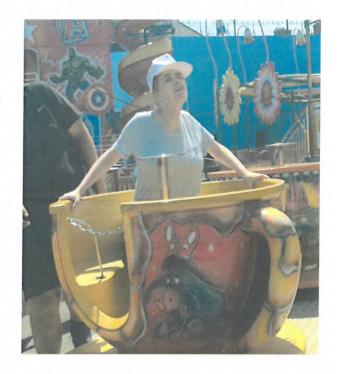
We had our annual New Brighton trip again this year, we had the weather on side which was perfect, all pupils & staff had a fantastic time. Big thank you to the taxi drivers who organise this event every year! One of our pupils said 'this is the best day of the year'.



Another Successful Enterprise day again this year, pupils raised a fantastic £793.60! Well done to all. This year funds raised will be used for a new summer house and a fun day in school.



Lady Dodd come to visit us in School to receive the ceramic gift we made for Sir Ken Dodd, who was a great friend to St Vincent's.







On Wednesday 18th July, pupils who have been taking part in drama, through enrichment, successfully completed their performance 'Northgate Heroes'. The performance was written and directed by the pupils themselves. There was a lot of laughs and plenty of applause. Pupils should be so proud of their individual contribution.



Congratulations to all bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh students who completed their expeditions.

Thank you to all staff and volunteers for making Sports Day such a huge success. Well done all!





## Goodbye & Goodluck

#### A message from Mrs Simpson our Deputy Principal...

I would to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for my time spent working here at St. Vincent's. I am so thankful of having been given the opportunity 39 years ago to join this dedicated, forward thinking and highly respected school.

Have I really been here 39 years? It doesn't seem that long ago that I came into school in the July to be handed a Brailler, a wad of paper and a primer by Sister Josephine and told 'here's something for you to start working through over the summer and your exam is in January!!

I recently received a letter from a past pupil who started off by saying 'It was on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1979, the first real Tuesday of the academic year 1979/80, that I had my first lesson with Miss Lawton as she was known then and as we pupils of St Vincent's School had to call her' He also recalled 'The first lessons we had were about electricity. I especially remember how we were taught that electricity does not flow unless it has somewhere to go'. I'm sure that sounds familiar to some of you – some things never change!!

I've been asked what I'm going to do now. I'm going to do a lot of things and very few of them conform to the notion of retirement as a time of rest and reflection. I am going to travel to places I've always wanted to go to and haven't been. I am going to read books that have been waiting on my 'must read' list for years. I will garden, learn new skills, visit art galleries and museums, enjoy being around family and friends... In short, I plan to LIVE.

I would like to thank my friends and colleagues for their support, friendship and sharing of skills, time and laughter. I have enjoyed working with you. What a blessing to be able to say that! You have been my second family and you have supported me in my career and in my personal life. You listened to my stories about my children and you cared when life wasn't so rosy.

I'm going to miss you all ... the fun, the laughter and the discussions we have had.

And lastly, I leave you with this thought. There is only ever one of each of us. We are unique. We are neither better nor less than anybody else but rather the best or least of ourselves. So to the pupils my advice is 'Work hard, learn lots and have fun but most importantly of all be the best you can be. I am still working on finding the best of me. It is an exciting on-going journey. Thank you for being my travelling companions along this part of my journey. I am forever grateful for your stimulating company and the enormous collection of shared experiences indelibly printed on my mind.

Mrs A Simpson

# Fun Day



