



Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 26th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another wonderful week at St Vincent's, despite the exceptionally warm weather that has accompanied us over the past few days. I would like to begin by thanking our pupils and staff for the positive way they have adapted to the high temperatures, ensuring that learning has continued with enthusiasm while taking sensible steps to keep everyone safe, hydrated and comfortable.

Across the school there has been a real sense of purpose as pupils have continued to engage in lessons, enrichment and outdoor learning, demonstrating resilience, kindness and a positive attitude throughout the week. As we move ever closer to the end of another successful academic year, it is clear that the momentum and excitement across St Vincent's continues to grow, with many more opportunities and celebrations still to come.

Summer Camp 2026

This week, information about our 2026 St Vincent's Summer Camp has been shared with all parents and carers. Our annual Summer Camp continues to be one of the highlights of the year, providing pupils with opportunities to develop confidence, independence, friendships and new skills through a wide range of exciting activities in a supportive and familiar environment.

The camp also offers invaluable opportunities for pupils to strengthen their social connections and create lasting memories beyond the school day. We hope that as many pupils as possible will take advantage of this fantastic opportunity. It was also particularly pleasing that the benefits and long-term impact of our annual Summer Camp were recognised in this month's edition of SEN Magazine UK, highlighting the positive difference the camp continues to make to the lives of the children and young people who attend.

Residential Provision

This week, we continued with interviews as part of our preparations to further develop our Residential Provision. It has been encouraging to meet candidates who share our commitment to providing high-quality care, support and enriching experiences for our pupils beyond the school day.

As previously announced, we are excited to be introducing weekend residential provision from September 2026, further expanding the opportunities available to pupils and families. This important development reflects our ongoing commitment to enhancing personal development, independence

and wellbeing, while providing additional opportunities for pupils to take part in a wide range of educational, social and recreational activities within a safe, nurturing and familiar environment.

BBC In Touch

This week, we were delighted to welcome the BBC In Touch team to St Vincent's to record a special feature exploring the importance of Braille and the role it continues to play in education, independence and everyday life. The visit provided a fantastic opportunity to showcase the expertise of our pupils and staff, while highlighting the value of Braille as a vital literacy tool for many blind and visually impaired people.

We are grateful to the BBC for taking the time to visit the school and help raise awareness of this important subject. The feature will be broadcast in the coming weeks and will be available to listen to on BBC Sounds—we will be sure to share further details with families once the programme is aired.

RHS In Bloom

We were also delighted to welcome the RHS in Bloom judges to St Vincent's as they visited the school to assess our grounds. The visit provided an opportunity to showcase the incredible transformation of our outdoor spaces and the commitment shown by both pupils and staff in creating an environment that is rich in nature, biodiversity and opportunities for learning.

From our developing pond, orchard and wildflower areas to the school chickens and growing outdoor classrooms, every part of the site reflects our shared ambition to create spaces that support wellbeing, curiosity and environmental stewardship. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this journey over the past year. The pride, dedication and teamwork demonstrated by our school community have helped create an inspiring environment that enriches the experiences of everyone who learns, works and visits St Vincent's.

Leavers Assembly

We also came together this week for our Leavers Assembly, a special occasion to celebrate the journeys and achievements of our Post-16 pupils as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives. It was an opportunity to reflect on the friendships, memories and accomplishments that have shaped their time at St Vincent's, while recognising the confidence, resilience and independence they have developed along the way. On behalf of everyone at the school, I would like to wish Harvey, Princewill, Joshua and Yahya every success and happiness for the future.

Thank you for the contribution each of you has made to our school community. You will always be a valued part of the St Vincent's family, and we hope that the next stage of your journey brings many exciting opportunities and continued success.

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding week, I would like to thank our pupils, staff, families and the wider St Vincent's community for their continued support, encouragement and commitment. This week has been filled with celebration, reflection and exciting opportunities, all of which demonstrate the strength of our school community and the many experiences our pupils enjoy throughout the year. With temperatures expected to be a little cooler over the weekend, I hope everyone has the opportunity to relax, recharge and spend some quality time with family and friends. Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes,

Mr D Swanston

Headteacher