



Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

After the intensity and excitement of last week, it has been good to return to something resembling a more normal week at St Vincent's!

We are now four weeks into the new academic year, and it has been really encouraging to observe how well our children and young people have settled into their new classes, routines and expectations. Walking around school this week, there has been a real sense of pupils getting down to business – learning, developing their independence and taking advantage of the many different opportunities available to them.

One of the things I particularly enjoy at this stage of the autumn term is beginning to already observe those small signs of progress emerging. For one young person that might be greater confidence in the classroom; for another it could be travelling more independently, trying something new, developing a friendship or persevering with something they previously found difficult.

These individual successes are incredibly important at St Vincent's, and we will continue to recognise and celebrate them throughout the year.

Our curriculum is about academic progress, but it is also about equipping our young people with the confidence, independence and skills they will need beyond St Vincent's. This week, once again, there have been lots of examples of pupils putting those skills into practice.

House points as we come to the end of week 3 are Elm 47, Ash 34 and Oak 37.

Global Laser Run City Tour

This week, some of our pupils had the fantastic opportunity to attend the Global Laser Run City Tour at Liverpool Waterfront.

It was a brilliant opportunity for our young people to take part in an exciting and inclusive sporting event in the heart of the city, combining physical activity with the challenge and excitement of laser shooting and running.

Experiences like this are an important part of life at St Vincent's, giving our pupils opportunities to try something different, develop their confidence, challenge themselves and enjoy being active alongside others.

A huge well done to everyone who took part and represented St Vincent's – another fantastic experience beyond the classroom!

Catalyst Science Discovery Centre

On Thursday, a group of our pupils enjoyed a visit to the Catalyst Science Discovery Centre in Widnes, providing another fantastic opportunity to take learning beyond the classroom.

The visit gave pupils the chance to explore science through a range of interactive and hands-on experiences, encouraging them to investigate, ask questions and discover how science connects to the world around us.

Trips such as this are a really important part of our curriculum at St Vincent's. As well as bringing classroom learning to life, they provide valuable opportunities for our young people to develop their confidence, communication and independence while experiencing new environments.

A fantastic day of exploration, discovery and learning – well done to everyone involved!

Macmillan Coffee Morning

This week, we were also delighted to take part in the Macmillan Coffee Morning, coming together as a school community to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Our cake bake sale was a wonderful success, with pupils and staff all getting involved and showing their generosity. It was lovely to see everyone coming together for such an important cause, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who baked, donated and supported the event.

Random Acts of Kindness

One of the things we continue to encourage at St Vincent's is for our young people to recognise the difference that their actions can make to others. Our Kindness Tree is a lovely way of capturing some of those moments – particularly the small acts of kindness that can sometimes go unnoticed.

Throughout the week, pupils and staff have been recognising and sharing examples of kindness they have observed around school. During today's assembly, I chose one of these at random from our Kindness Tree to share with the whole school.

What I particularly like about this is that it isn't about rewarding one particular achievement. It is about helping our young people recognise the importance of empathy,

respect and looking out for others, and understanding the positive contribution they can make to their school community.

These everyday moments matter. They help our pupils build positive relationships, develop confidence in themselves and others, and contribute to a school where everyone feels that they belong.

As we come to the end of another busy week, it has been fantastic to observe our young people embracing so many different opportunities – both within school and out in the wider community. From sporting challenges and science exploration to celebrating kindness and looking out for one another, these experiences all contribute to the learning, confidence, independence and personal development of our pupils.

Thank you, as always, to our staff, families and wider St Vincent's community for your continued support. Most importantly, well done to our children and young people for another positive week!

I hope everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes,

Mr. D Swanston

Headteacher