



Issue: #7 Term: Autumn Date: 20th December 2024



ST VINCENT'S SCHOOL

A Specialist School for Sensory Impairment and Other Needs

St. Vincent's School Christmas Newsletter

Love, Live, Learn, Grow

Upcoming dates

Pupils return: Monday 6th
January 2025

Saturday Activities:
Saturday 18th January

Saturday Activities:
Saturday 1st February

School breaks for half-term:
Friday 14th February

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

Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

As we end the term for a well-earned Christmas break I have been so pleased with the commitment, attitude and progress all our pupils have made this term. Well done to all the new pupils who have settled so quickly into school life at St Vincent's – and thank you to all pupils for helping them to do so with ease.

It's been a term full of many highlights and successes – too many to list – but Thursday's performance was the perfect way to end the term. All pupils performed with such confidence – and I hope that you all enjoyed the shows – ITV Granada certainly did! Thank you to Elaine and her crew for visiting school and joining us for the day. This term has also been focused on developing the schools new prospectus – but alongside this gathering the views of the school from parents, carers and the children and young people themselves. This has helped to inform the prospectus – and thank you again to everyone for your contributions.

I hope that you have all found the new weekly newsletter useful – and this will continue in the New Year.

I would like to wish all parents, carers, staff and pupils a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes,

Mr D Swanston



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Primary Boccia Tournament

Pupils from year 5 and 6 took part in a Boccia tournament at Greenbank Sports Academy. All players who participated gave their all and enjoyed a great day out representing St Vincent's School.

The tournament included individual and team ends of play and all developed their Boccia skills and techniques.

Huge well done to all of you!



History Trip

KS3 School trip to Liverpool: At the beginning of November Mr. McSorley brought pupils to Liverpool as part of a History and Geography trip. Pupils had a guided tour of the Maritime and Slavery Museum, explored the docks and then took a ferry cruise around the Mersey River. They even managed to stop with The Fab four!



Bebras Maths Challenge

Pupils from S4 and both S5 classes took part in a worldwide maths challenge this term. The pupils tackled a series of interactive tasks designed to encourage logical thinking and problem-solving skills. The tasks are designed to allow every student the opportunity to showcase their potential.

After collating the results, Adam, Keenyah and Abyan received certificates of distinction but the overall winner for best in school was Sienna. Well done Sienna!

I am very proud of all students for rising to the challenge. Everyone has received a certificate and are trailblazers for future visually impaired pupils who wish to take part.

Mrs Blair



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Mock UN Climate Action Conference

To coincide with COP29, our Debate Club took part in a mock UN climate action debate held at Rainford High School. Our school was assigned the country India and debated with schools from across the Northwest who were all assigned a country to represent. Our pupils debated many issues we are facing due to climate change, specifically focusing on the textile industry.

Very well done to all those who participated.



Residential Christmas Lunch

This year residential students hosted a Christmas lunch and invited their friends and staff to attend and enjoy a festive feast.

Thanks to Mr McMahon and Noah for being our chefs! A lovely evening was had by all, full on fun and laughter.



Jockey Club Aintree

Primary had a lovely surprise visit from Rachael Blackmore – the first ever female Jockey to win the Grand National at Aintree. Rachael came to surprise Joshua to invite him to be the official 35th Runner at the 2025 Randox Grand National! Such an honour – and well done Josh we are all very proud of you.

Thank you to Rachael and everyone at the Aintree Jockey club for the gifts and visit.



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BBC Radio Merseyside

Following the recent success of Chris McCausland's on Strictly we welcomed BBC Radio Merseyside's Kevin Duala to school to chat to some of the pupils about school life, their aspirations and what makes St Vincent's special to them.

Well done to all involved for sharing their views so articulately – and congratulations again to Chris on his victory.



Wooden Spoon Charity

We 'officially' opened our new all-weather sports pitch as Trustees and volunteers from Wooden Spoon Charity joined us to celebrate the occasion, chat to staff and pupils and find out how the facility is already making a positive impact.

Thank you again to the Wooden Spoon Charity for your very generous grant of £10k towards this facility. We can't wait to welcome you back in the summer.



Saturday Activities

The introduction to fortnightly Saturday activities have been a huge success – from sports and games – to trips to ten pin bowling – there has been lots of fun had by all.

Thank you to all who have attended and these sessions will continue in 2025.



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Halloween Disco

Thank you to Mrs McLaughlin for organising a Halloween disco this year. We had some fantastic costumes from all students and staff. Pupils enjoyed fun games, quizzes and some bushtucker-style treats. Thank you to all parents and carers for your kind donations for the day.



A message from the Head Boy

It has been an exciting term with lots of fun activities and learning for all pupils. The new sports pitch has been a great addition to the school and I have personally enjoyed running the new school football club.

All pupils have had a great end of term and performed brilliantly at the day and evening performances.

Well done and Merry Christmas

Tom



Christmas Performance

This year's Christmas performance took the audience on a journey through the TV channels on Christmas Day. Featuring classic adverts, iconic Christmas specials and your favourite Christmas films, the pupils told the story of Christmas and spread love, laughter and joy to all.

Congratulations to all our students for another fantastic performance.

Massive thanks to Mrs McLaughlin for her first ever St Vincent's Christmas performance, and all the staff for helping to organise, prepare costumes and everything in between.

We hope that you all enjoyed it – you can use the below link to follow the ITV coverage:

<https://www.itv.com/watch/news/watch-the-latest-granada-reports-from-thursday-19th-december/sdvdqjt>

Wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!