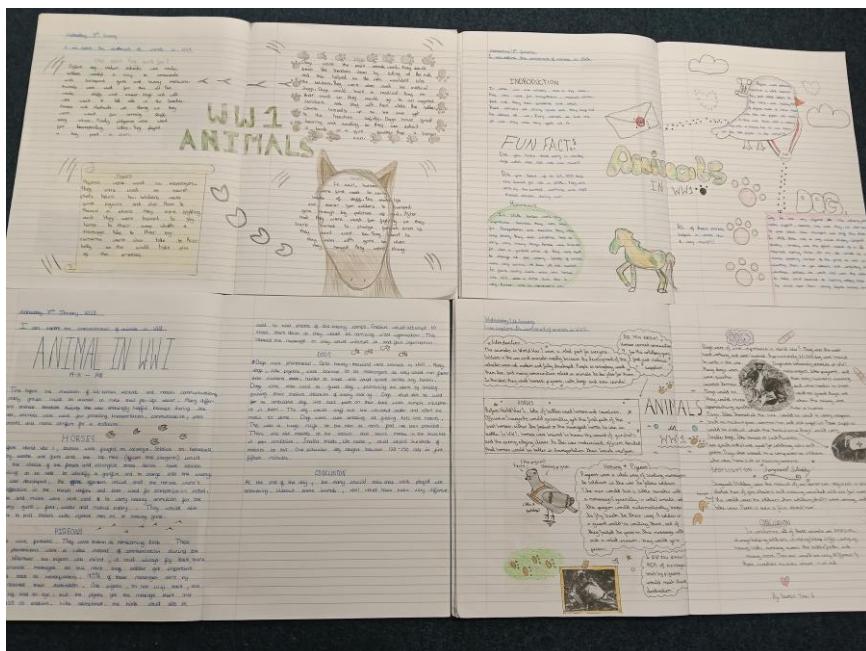


## Focus on ... Year 6

We have certainly hit the ground running in Year 6 with a busy week to begin the spring term! On Monday, we were so lucky to have our first forest school session of 2026 in the SNOW! We sledged down the hills, made snowmen and had a wonderful time together. In English we have begun work on our new book by creating dramatic, dark forest setting descriptions – but Mrs Bullen still hasn't told us what the book is so we have to wait until next week! In Maths, we have been multiplying and dividing fractions and we have really impressed Mrs Bullen. RE this term is focused on John's gospel and we began by trying to discern what Jesus was trying to tell us about himself through his miracles. Our History work was focused on how animals were used during World War One and we produced some stunning reports and double-page spreads. AND we have made safety posters about electricity in Science and have learned how to say lots of different sports in French – not to mention planning playgrounds we're going to build in DT! Phew – we're definitely ready for the weekend now!



## Newsletter 16

09.01.2026



Believe, Trust and Be Ready  
**"That they may have life, and to the full" John 10:10**

### Time to reflect

This week's focus is 'The Epiphany of the Lord' - Matthew 2:1-12. The Magi travelled from the East to see the Christ child. The word 'Epiphany' comes from the Greek, meaning 'showing'. It is the end of the '12 Days of Christmas' but not the end of the Christmas season which ends at the Baptism of the Lord on the 8th January. We think of there being three men because there were three gifts, but Matthew does not mention a number. In the Eastern Churches, the tradition is that there were 12 Magi! The names by which we know the Magi in the West are Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar and they brought gold, frankincense and myrrh. What gift can we give to someone this week? It doesn't need to be expensive!

Happy new year!



## Behaviour Awards

**Conduct and Courtesy Award** – Great attitude with good manners and behaviour.

**Merit Award** – Super work and effort in a particular area of the Curriculum.

Year Group	Gospel value: Dignity	Conduct & Courtesy	Merit award - comment
<b>Reception</b>	Maggie	Lilly	Jem – for a great attitude to his learning
<b>Year 1</b>	Sofia	Felix	Lucie – for being a fantastic member of our class and for such a great improvement in her writing
<b>Year 2</b>	Nathan	Georgia	Hugo – for always showing interest in everything we do
<b>Year 3</b>	Florence O	Felix	Isabella P – for consistently being a good role model to others both in and out of school
<b>Year 4</b>	Joe	Theo M	Violet – for writing a great poem using abstract nouns
<b>Year 5</b>	Robyn	George	Loughlin – for always working hard, being kind, helpful and always smiling
<b>Year 6</b>	William	Darcy	Alissa – for working incredibly hard in English and Maths

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, and a very Happy New Year to you all. I hope you were able to enjoy some well-earned rest and relaxation over Christmas and New Year — it already feels like a distant memory. What a week it's been with the snow and ice, but despite the weather, the children have settled back into school brilliantly. It's been lovely to see their enthusiasm and energy filling the corridors again. Classrooms are already buzzing with new learning, fresh starts, and plenty of smiles. We've had a truly wonderful week in school. I had the pleasure of teaching Year 4 on Monday and Reception on Wednesday, and their enthusiasm was infectious. The children were also outstanding during Mass on Tuesday; their reverence, participation, and joyful singing made us all incredibly proud.

Last night I joined our Year 3 and Year 4 pupils at the athletics event, and they were fantastic. Their teamwork, determination, and support for one another really shone through.

Have a lovely weekend and God bless,

Miss Groarke and all the staff at St. Vincent's

## Year 3/4 Sports Hall Athletics

Well done to our Year 3 and Year 4 Sports Hall Athletics team, who put in a fantastic performance last night and finished as runners-up. Coach Dave was full of praise for the children, commenting on their great attitude and excellent teamwork throughout. We are very proud of them all.



## Year 3 Trip to Tatton Park

Year 3 had a fantastic trip to Tatton Park to launch our new history topic on the Stone Age. We learned about the importance of fire and even had a go at making it using a bow drill. We explored Stone Age tools made from flint, including an axe, arrowhead, knife and hammer stone. The children also became hunter-gatherers for the day, using real animal bones and antlers to dig and bury grains. To finish, we worked together to weave sticks and fill the gaps with mud to build a Stone Age roundhouse. Wrapped up warm, everyone had a great day full of hands-on learning and excitement!



## Children due to start Reception in September 2026

The closing date to make an application for a child to start primary school in September 2026 is Thursday 15th January 2025 – this is for children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022. Late applications may be disadvantaged. Parents who are unable to apply online can apply by telephone on 0300 123 5012

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/start-school-september.aspx>

## Payments for 2026 Residential visits

Thank you for all payments made towards the residential so far. We still have a number of permissions and payments outstanding. Please ensure you log onto ParentPay ASAP and sign your child up.

Please note if you need some financial help, please contact Miss Groarke to make an appointment to discuss this.

### **Y5/Y6 ROBINWOOD: 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Please ensure full payment is received via ParentPay by Friday 13th February 2026.

### **Y4 PETTY POOL: 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

### **Y3 FOX HOWL: 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

Please ensure that all payments and permissions are made via ParentPay.

## Curriculum Overviews

Details of the curriculum being covered in each class are to be found in the Curriculum Overviews sent home today. Homework timetables are also included but please be aware there are occasional variations in juniors so check homework diaries for the tasks set. Please spend a little time chatting with your child about homework and if you have any resources or expertise that you could offer, please don't be shy – let your child's teacher know!

## KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts)

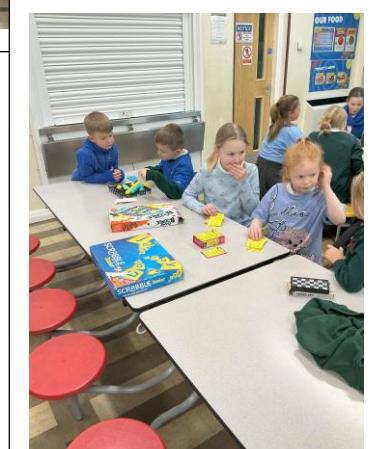
The Spring term KIRFs have been sent home tonight, please pin them up somewhere visible at home so that your child can look at them each day. The expectation is that children will learn these facts and use them in other aspects of their Maths work in school.

## Year 3 and 4 Swimming

Swimming lessons for Year 3 and Year 4 will begin on Friday 16th January 2026 and will run for 5 weeks (not including the INSET day on 13<sup>th</sup> February and half-term). The total contribution for the block of lessons is £14.70; payment can be made via ParentPay. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit every Friday.

## St Andrew's House Party

St Andrew were our House Point winners last term, so on Tuesday they enjoyed a well-deserved celebration. The children had an hour in the hall to party, and they were also allowed to wear their own blue tops for the party. The party was a huge success! They played corners, enjoyed biscuits and a sweet to start, and then spent the rest of the session playing the games they had brought in from home. It was a brilliant reward for all their hard work and teamwork.



## House Points

House points are awarded throughout the week for all kinds of achievement or for good behaviour in all classes. The house point totals for this week were as follows:

St. David	St. Andrew	St. George	St. Patrick
23	19	19	19

Well done to this week's winning house – St David!

## Attendance

Reception	97.8%	Year 4	97.3%
Year 1	96%	Year 5	96.3%
Year 2	92.2%	Year 6	92.9%
Year 3	97.9%		

**WELL DONE YEAR 3 – GREAT ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!**

**Whole School Attendance for this week – 95.7%**



## FREE event - Neon Glow Party

The Catenians would once again like to invite the children of St. Vincent's school and parish to this year's children's party in the New Year. This year we are having a Neon Glow Party. It will be another fun packed afternoon of music, dance and games.

This year the party will take place on **Sunday 18th January, 2pm to 4pm**, at Charlton Lodge on the Moor (1<sup>st</sup> Knutsford Scout Hut).

The event, as always, is **free** for St. Vincent's children but there are limited places available so booking is essential at [events@knutsford.p17catenians.org](mailto:events@knutsford.p17catenians.org)

## Pre- School Celebration

In celebration of thirty wonderful years of our Pre-school, they warmly invite parishioners, past staff, parents, and pupils who have moved on from St Vincent's Primary School to join them for a special evening marking three decades of nurturing young minds and building a loving community. The celebration will take place on **Friday 23rd January 2026 from 6.30pm to 8.30pm**, and they would be delighted to see you there as they reflect on thirty years of laughter, learning, and little footsteps. If you have any photographs or videos from your child's time in the Setting and are happy for them to be included in a slideshow or display, they would be very grateful to receive a copy.

Please contact Cath Davies (01565 651948 / [cath@stvincentspreschool.co.uk](mailto:cath@stvincentspreschool.co.uk)) if you plan to attend or would like further information. Children from the primary school will be visiting during lesson time in the week leading up to the event, so we kindly ask that they are not brought along on Friday evening.

**Birthday Wishes!** Many happy returns for this week to:



<b>The Week Ahead</b>	<i>Start Time</i>	<i>End Time</i>
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>		
Y5 Mini Police Assembly – all parents/carers welcome	9:05am	
D.R. Sports – Multi Sports (Y1-Y6) <a href="http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk">www.drsportsclubs.co.uk</a>	3:30pm	4:30pm
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
Year 5 Forest School (Bring Forest schools clothes in a bag – no shorts)		PM
Year 4 Clarinet Lesson - Love Music Trust		
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
ARTIS performing arts workshops	ALL	DAY
D.R. Sports – Dodgeball/Basketball/Netball (Y1-Y6) <a href="http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk">www.drsportsclubs.co.uk</a>	3:30pm	4:30pm
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
Rock Steady Music	ALL	DAY
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
Year 3 and 4 Swimming (Remember swimming kit)		PM
D.R. Sports – KS2 Football <a href="http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk">www.drsportsclubs.co.uk</a>	3:30pm	4:30pm

\* DR Sports After School Clubs are booked directly through their website at [www.drsportsclubs.co.uk](http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk)



## Father David and St. Vincent's Church - Information

### St Vincent De Paul RC Church, Knutsford (stvincentsknutsford.org)

**Masses at Knutsford:** Sunday – 9:00 am and 11:00 am

**Masses at Lymm:** Vigil Mass at St Winefride's, Booths Hill Rd, Lymm, WA13 0DL at 5.45pm on Saturdays.

**MUMS AND TOTS AT ST. VINCENT'S PARISH CENTRE** - all preschool aged children and parents/carers are welcome every Friday (except the first Friday of the month) at the Parish Centre from 10am until 12.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** - On Sunday at the 11 am Mass all children are warmly invited to take part and learn about the Gospel in a way that's fun and engaging. Mums and Dads are very welcome to come along and assist with their children as we share faith together as a parish family.