

Focus on ... Year 3

Year 3 have enjoyed an action-packed week full of creativity, discovery and adventure. In Art, they travelled back to prehistoric times to explore how early humans made cave paintings. Using charcoal, they sketched animals by identifying key 2D shapes and blending to create tone and form. They also made natural paints from spices, filling the classroom with wonderful smells, and began building a giant cave-wall artwork with a textured, rocky background. Their historical journey continued as they learned about life from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. Working together, they placed key events on a timeline and used their "history detective" skills to understand how we know about prehistory. The children were fascinated to learn how archaeologists study objects to uncover clues about the past. Monday's Forest School session turned them into rock detectives. They searched the school grounds for different types of rocks, sorted them using a Venn diagram and examined them under a microscope, spotting tiny patterns and textures. In Computing, the excitement carried on as they used Scratch to build sequences of commands, experimenting and watching their ideas come alive on screen.

It's been a brilliant week of hands-on learning, imagination and exploration — with plenty more to come.



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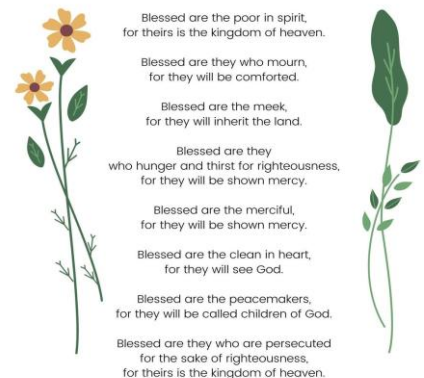
Believe, Trust and Be Ready
"That they may have life, and to the full" John 10:10

Gospel Values

Our gospel value this week is Humility.

This weekend the Gospel reading is focused on The Beatitudes. The Beatitudes are a series of teachings by Jesus Christ found in Matthew's Gospel, which outline the qualities and attitudes valued in the Kingdom of Heaven. We also discussed this in assembly and our children came up with lots of ways we can show these qualities.

THE BEATITUDES



Matthew 5:1-10

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: Humility	Conduct & Courtesy	Merit award - comment
Reception	Wynter-Thea	Matilda	James – brilliant attitude to learning
Year 1	Sophie	Arthur	Emily – for writing a super retell of Hermelin
Year 2	Lily	Annabelle	Reggie – for trying hard with his work
Year 3	James	Oscar	Peyton – for always having a positive attitude towards her work and always smiling
Year 4	Edward	James	Harrison – using shading technique well in Art
Year 5	Huey	Beatrice	Abrielle – for always producing beautiful work and for her hard work in everything she does
Year 6	Annie	Edward W	Chloe – fantastic writing in RE and English

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been in our school community. Last Friday, we had the joy of celebrating 30 years of our pre-school — a truly special evening filled with past staff, parents, friends, and so many familiar faces. It's amazing how quickly time passes; it feels like only yesterday that my children, John and Lily, were in pre-school, and yet that was 20 years ago! On Sunday, we gathered for the enrolment Mass for the Sacramental Programme, where 24 of our children took part so beautifully. On Monday, our Mini Police were busy with Carlos, completing their bleep fitness test and proudly creating their own warrant cards. We also welcomed parents on Wednesday for the Year 5 and 6 residential meeting, followed by the Year 6 SATs information session, and on Friday Reception had a Stay and Read session.

Thank you to everyone who attended these events. The partnership between home and school is so important, and it is always inspiring to see the commitment our parents make to stay informed and be involved.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

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



NSPCC

Over the past week all classes had completed an assembly, led by their class teachers on **Speak out. Stay Safe**. This programme is designed for children aged 5–11 and helps them understand the different forms of abuse and recognise when something isn't right. It encourages them to speak out to a safe adult or to contact Childline if they ever feel worried.

On Tuesday, the NSPCC visited school as part of their Speak out. Stay safe. programme and children in Year 2, 5 and 6 took part in workshops delivered by NSPCC. These sessions were fully aligned with the curriculum and included age-appropriate classroom activities, supported by the NSPCC mascot, Buddy



The NSPCC have shared some important information below on wider NSPCC resources and support to help keep children safe. For parent and carers: www.nspcc.org.uk/parents

Take part in games and activities at home to help children learn about speaking out and staying safe: www.nspcc.org.uk/activities

Online Safety Hub - For information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing images, parental controls and more: www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety

Childline – under 12's Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities. Children can change the language, enlarge text and also listen to the content: www.childline.org.uk/buddy (5-7) www.childline.org.uk/kids (7-11)

Talk PANTS with your children Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages.

Download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.

St Vincent's Pre-School

St Vincent's Pre-School celebrated 30 remarkable years last week — three decades shaped by community spirit, generosity, and unwavering dedication. Since opening in 1996, it has grown into a warm, nurturing haven for children thanks to the countless staff, volunteers, and families who have poured their hearts into it. This milestone also honours the extraordinary commitment of people like Cath Davies, whose steady leadership, kindness, and belief in the pre-school have helped it flourish and guided it into its beautiful purpose-built home with the help of all the staff, past and present. Thirty years on, St Vincent's stands as a testament to what a community can achieve together — a place built with love, sustained by service, and cherished by all who have been part of its story.



Last week all children from school visited the Pre-school to decorate cakes, make handprints, write memories and play with the pre-school children. A great time was had by everyone.



Guide for Parents Published by the Children's Commissioner

This guide is designed to demystify some of the issues around managing children's digital lives. The aim of the guide is to help make talking to a child about them easier. It offers advice on setting boundaries and bringing up difficult topics that cannot be ignored – not just once, in a cursory way, but regularly.

'What I wish my parents or carers knew...' Children's Commissioner launches guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives

18 December 2025



Main link to the guide:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

Little Champions – Year 1 and 2

Last Thursday, children from Year 1 and Year 2 took part in the Little Champions event organised by Knutsford Academy. The event offered a fantastic range of fun activities designed to help pupils develop and apply a variety of fundamental skills. The children threw themselves into every challenge with enthusiasm and teamwork. They represented the school brilliantly, showed great determination, and most importantly, had a wonderful time.



St Vincent's vs Peover Superior



On Thursday, the school football team had a football match against Peover Superior School at Knutsford Academy. We won 12-2 and our goalscorers were Daniel (4), Thomas M (2), Thomas C (1), Archie (2), Maya (1) and Grace F (2). We all had a great time and we enjoyed it. Two year-4s played with us and were amazing! Grace F got player of the match! -Henry and Thomas M(Y5)

Missing St Vincent's Sports Kit

We are currently missing several pieces of St Vincent's sports kit. Could we please ask parents to check at home in case any items have been left at home. If you find anything belonging to school, we would be grateful if it could be returned as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

Holidays during term time

Our 'Holidays during term time' policy makes clear that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless exceptional circumstances are clearly demonstrated. Please see this policy on our website for further details https://www.stvincentsknutsford.co.uk/serve_file/19729088

Please note Cheshire East Local Authority may issue Fixed Penalty Notices to parents who take their children out of school without authorisation. We also ask that an absence request form is completed and sent into school for each absence request at least 4 weeks before.

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
15	23	17	22

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

Attendance

Reception	95.6%	Year 4	95%
Year 1	95.7%	Year 5	96.3%
Year 2	97.8%	Year 6	94.2%
Year 3	100%		

WELL DONE YEAR 3 – PERFECT ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!

Whole School Attendance for this week – 96.3%

Birthday Wishes! Many happy returns for this week to:

LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS
5	6	9
James	Ralph	George



PTA Movie Night

Friday 30th January, 5:00–7:00pm

Join us for a cosy evening as we screen **Elio (PG)**, a heart-warming Pixar adventure about an imaginative boy who's accidentally beamed into space and mistaken for Earth's ambassador.

Tickets are available on ParentPay for £6 per person, which includes a drink, biscuit and crisps.

Payments for 2026 Residential visits

Thank you for all payments made towards the residentials 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: 25th to 27th February 2026 – less than 4 weeks away!

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

Y4 PETTY POOL: 27th to 29th April 2026

Y3 FOX HOWL: 7th to 8th May 2025

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

The Week Ahead	Start Time	End Time
Monday 2nd February 2026		
Y2 Forest School	PM	
D.R. Sports – Multi Sports (Y1-Y6) www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	3:30pm	4:30pm
Card and Board Game club – Miss Groarke - Y2 & Y3 – sign up on ParentPay	3:30pm	4:15pm
Tuesday 3rd February		
Trip to Weaver Hall Museum	ALL	DAY
Year 4 Clarinet Lesson - Love Music Trust	PM	
Wednesday 4th February		
ARTIS performing arts workshops	ALL	DAY
D.R. Sports – Dodgeball/Basketball/Netball (Y1-Y6) www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	3:30pm	4:30pm
Thursday 5th February		
Rock Steady Music	ALL	DAY
Y2/3/4/5/6 – DT and Science Club	3:25pm	4:15pm
Friday 6th February		
Reception – Stay and Learn – Maths	9:00am	10:00am
Year 3 and 4 Swimming (Remember swimming kit)	PM	
D.R. Sports – KS2 Football www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	3:30pm	4:30pm

* DR Sports After School Clubs are booked directly through their website at www.drsportsclubs.co.uk



Father David and St. Vincent's Church - Information

[St Vincent De Paul RC Church, Knutsford \(stvincentsknutsford.org\)](http://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.

JOINT PARISH CAMBODIA LINK: Message from Fr David - I am delighted to report that I have sent a further \$15,000 to Fr Totet following your generosity before Christmas and a generous donation from a St Vincent's parishioner. A total of \$30,000 has now been sent in advance of our arrival in Cambodia on 2nd February which is well on the way to reaching our target figure of \$40,000 towards the building of the classrooms at the Jesus Farm. Construction of the classrooms is well underway.

Knutsford 'Royal' May Day Dancers 2026

Monday 2nd February 2026 5pm to 5.30pm
Egerton Primary School, Bexton Road, Knutsford.

Girls or boys need to be aged 7 years or over.

(NO DANCE EXPERIENCE NEEDED)

**The dance rehearsals will take place every Monday and Thursday
until May Day, 2nd May**

5pm till 7pm

(unless notified otherwise)

All children will be guaranteed to dance. The number of dances allocated will
depend on commitment to practices.

(Please speak to one of the adults if they can only commit to one practice a
week)

Any questions please contact

Becky Stott – 07468596119

Jo Horth – 07949739426

Shayna Horth – 07543240260

Many thanks

