

## Focus on ... Year 2

Year 2 have had a very exciting week! In History, we have been learning about the Great Fire of London and, on Tuesday, we went to Weaver Hall Museum in Northwich to find out a little bit more! We met Rosie, Samuel Pepys' maid who told us all about life in 1666 as a servant to Samuel Pepys as well as more interesting facts about the Great Fire. The day was lots of fun!

Annabelle: 'I enjoyed making the Tussie Mussies. They had lavender inside and were supposed to get rid of bad odours called miasma.'

Amelia: 'I enjoyed acting out being Mrs Pepys. I wore pattens and pretended to walk over mud.'

Nathan: 'I learned that the plague doctors were not real doctors!'



In RE, we have been hearing about some of the miracles Jesus worked. We sang a song describing the healing of the paralysed man and then thought about how we could help lead people closer to Jesus.

In English, we have been designing our own Bog Baby habitats and in Forest Schools we were very excited to create them! It was messy but we hope some creatures might like to move in soon!

Last week, in DT we designed and made our own healthy wraps. First, we taste tested different ingredient combinations to find our favourite, which we then used in our healthy wrap.

## Newsletter 20

06.02.2026

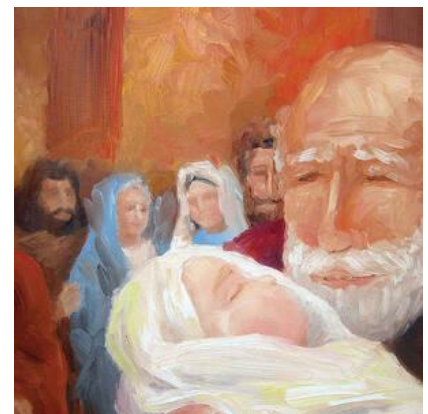


*Believe, Trust and Be Ready*  
**"That they may have life, and to the full" John 10:10**

## Gospel Value - Forgiveness

### Time to reflect

On Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February it was the feast of The Presentation of the Lord. The Gospel focus was Luke 2:22-40, it told us how Mary and Joseph brought their baby to the Temple in Jerusalem to be blessed by God. Simeon, a holy man, was there and took the baby Jesus in his arms and praised God for allowing him to see the saviour, the light of the world. It reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world and we should try to spread that light.



## 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: Forgiveness	Conduct & Courtesy	Merit award - comment
Reception	Albie	Shreya	Freddie – for brilliant RE work
Year 1	Flynn	Ethan	Caden – for having a fantastic attitude to learning
Year 2	Robyn	Aurora	Emmie – for being such a kind, caring and wonderful member of Year 2!
Year 3	Milan	Dora	Isabela M – for having a positive attitude towards her work
Year 4	Leo	Ian	Theo – excellent mythical story writing
Year 5	Noah	Layla	AraOluwa – for her fantastic effort and improvement with her handwriting
Year 6	Bobby	Jane	Mark – incredible effort and results in his assessments

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderfully busy week it has been in school. Our staff continue to give so much of their time, energy, and creativity to ensure your children experience a broad, exciting curriculum enriched with a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities. It has been a joy to see so many pupils thriving.

Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic visit to Weaver Hall, returning full of stories and new knowledge. I also spent time with both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 this week. In KS2, we explored our behaviour policy together—why we have it, what it means for them, and how it helps us all to create a positive, respectful school environment. Their reflections were thoughtful and mature.

Our Year 6 prefects deserve a special mention. They continue to be outstanding role models, supporting younger children with kindness and responsibility. Watching them step into leadership with such confidence is a real privilege.

On Monday and Tuesday, I joined Year 6 for their practice SATs. They approached the sessions with such maturity—it's hard to believe these are the same children we welcomed into Reception all those years ago. They have grown into thoughtful, capable young people, and I cannot wait to see the paths they choose and the impact they will one day have on the world. Wishing you all a restful weekend.

God bless,

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



## PTA Movie Night

Last Friday's PTA Movie Night was a great success, with children settling in to watch Elio together. They enjoyed a relaxed and fun evening with crisps and biscuits to snack on while they watched. A big thank-you to our PTA volunteers for organising such an enjoyable event for the children.

The event raised an amazing £504!



## Next week

Next week we have Mental Health week and Safer Internet Day in school.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026>

The theme for Children's Mental Health Week 2026 is "***This is My Place***", focusing on how we can support the systems around children and young people to help them feel a true sense of belonging. Alongside this, Safer Internet Day will explore "***Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.***"

Both themes encourage children—and adults—to think about meaningful connections, how we talk to one another, and how we navigate technology, misinformation, and the online world. I would really encourage you to continue these conversations at home. Everyone's mental health matters and taking time to talk together can make a real difference.

I would also ask that you continue to set clear boundaries around the use of technology in the home. In particular, please keep a close eye on the use of **WhatsApp**, **TikTok**, and **Instagram**. These platforms change quickly, and regular discussions about online safety are essential.

Please remember that further guidance and support can be found on our school website: [St Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary School: Safeguarding and E- Safety \(stvincentsknutsford.co.uk\)](https://stvincentsknutsford.co.uk)

## RE Newsletter

Going home tonight with this newsletter you will find our RE newsletter written by Mrs Davies. Please do read it as it has some key dates and information about the Catholic Life of our school and all the wonderful work our children and school community do.

## New Parent Portal – Arbor

We hope you've seen our recent email about the new school portal, Arbor (for Primary Carers only). Please follow the instructions in that email to log in. Once you're signed in, you'll be able to update your child's information directly through the portal, including medical details, addresses, permissions, and more.

**Please note that access to ParentPay will cease at midday on 12th February.** Balances already paid for residentials are being transferred to Arbor. We ask that any outstanding school meal debts in ParentPay are cleared as soon as possible. If your meal account is in credit, we aim to issue refunds by the start of the new half term.

**As a little incentive, the first class to have all parents and carers logged on to Arbor will receive a treat from Miss Groarke.**

## Little Champions – Reception



A group of our Reception children took part in the Little Champions event last night, organised by Knutsford Academy. They represented our school brilliantly, showing enthusiasm, confidence, and wonderful teamwork throughout. It was lovely to see them enjoying themselves and embracing the activities with such excitement. We are very proud of them all.

## Common Childhood Illnesses: Quick Guide for Parents

To help keep our school community healthy, here's a simple overview of common conditions and when children can return to school. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

**Conjunctivitis** – Children can attend school but should begin treatment.

**Nits (Head Lice)** – Children can attend school but need prompt treatment.

**Threadworm** – Children can attend school but should start treatment.

**Chickenpox** – Usually 5 days from the start of spots and return when blisters have crusted over.

**Vomiting/Diarrhoea** – Return 48 hours after the last episode.

**Coughs and Colds** – Children can attend if they feel well enough.

**Hand, Foot and Mouth** – Children can attend once they feel well enough.

**Slapped Cheek** – Children can attend once they feel well enough.

**Impetigo** – Stay off until patches have dried or crusted over.

## Parking outside school – a message from Cheshire Police



We would like to remind all parents and carers to follow the parking rules around school. Please be mindful when parking during school hours, as officers will continue to monitor the area. We also ask that you are considerate to our neighbours by avoiding blocking pavements, driveways and junctions. Your support helps keep everyone safe and ensures a positive relationship with our local community.

Examples of Illegal Parking:

- Double Yellow Lines: Parking or waiting is prohibited at any time.
- Single Yellow Lines: Parking, loading, and unloading are prohibited during the times shown on the accompanying sign.
- Yellow Zig-Zag Lines: Stopping or waiting is strictly prohibited.

Consequences of Illegal Parking:

- Fines: Illegal parking can result in fines, ranging from £80 upwards.
- Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN): A fine issued directly to the driver.
- Court Appearance: In some cases, illegal parking can lead to a court appearance.
- Towing: Vehicles parked illegally may be towed away.
- Penalty Points: In some cases, illegal parking can result in penalty points being added to your driving license.

## Lunar New Year Special Menu – Thursday 12th February

To celebrate Lunar New Year, Mrs Freeman will be serving a special themed menu on Thursday 12th February. Pupils can enjoy Sweet and Sour Chicken or Sweet and Sour Vegetables (V), served with a choice of Egg Noodles or Coconut Rice. Tomato Pasta will also be available. For dessert, Pancake Day pancakes will be served. Please see menu attached.

## Lost property

Any lost property from the lost property box in the entrance will be put out on the playground on the last day of the half-term (weather permitting). Please could you check if there is anything that belongs to your children.

## 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/page/policies-statements/29366>

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	18	20	24

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

## Attendance

Reception	100%	Year 4	98.7%
Year 1	95.7%	Year 5	94.1%
Year 2	100%	Year 6	91.7%
Year 3	100%		

**WELL DONE RECEPTION, YEAR 2 and 3 – PERFECT ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!**

## Whole School Attendance for this week – 96.9%

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

LOOK WHO	LOOK WHO
IS	IS
5	11
Wynter Thea	Yasmin

## 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 Arbor 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 – less than 3 weeks away!**

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**



<b>The Week Ahead</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>End Time</b>
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
Y1 Forest School	PM	
D.R. Sports – Multi Sports (Y1-Y6) <a href="http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk">www.drsportsclubs.co.uk</a>	3:30pm	4:30pm
Card and Board Game club – Miss Groarke - Y2 & Y3 – sign up on ParentPay	3:30pm	4:15pm
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
Reception Forest School	PM	
Y3 Retreat to St Nicholas Catholic High School	ALL	DAY
Y4 Clarinet Lesson - Love Music Trust	PM	
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
<b>ARTIS</b> 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 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
<b>Rock Steady Music</b>	ALL	DAY
Y2/3/4/5/6 – DT and Science Club	3:25pm	4:15pm
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED	9:00am	10:00am
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>		
SCHOOL REOPENS	8:55am	

\* 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 \(stvincentsknutsford.org\)](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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.