

## Focus on ... Year 5 & 6 Residential

The Year 5 and 6 children have had an amazing and fun time at Robinwood this week.

The children were split into 5 mixed year groups – Desert, Hill, Volcano, Lava and Valley. The activities they took part in included giant swing, piranha pool, zip wire, canoeing, archery, climbing wall, dungeon, trapeze and team challenges to mention just a few.

The visit was filled with laughter, courage, and teamwork, and the children rose to every challenge with enthusiasm and determination.

Look out for next week's newsletter, where we'll feature the children's reports and more photographs capturing all the highlights of this amazing experience.



## Newsletter 22

27.02.2026



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

### Time to reflect

Our focus this half term is 'The Common Good', which means that the fruits of the earth belong to everyone. No one should be excluded from the gifts of creation. In our world today, let us think about how we can make a difference...



Loving God, Help us to work together to share what we have so that everyone has what they need. Help us to build a better world where each of us can become the best person we can be. Amen

## 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: Purity	Conduct & Courtesy	Merit award - comment
Reception	Lilly	Joshua	Henry – amazing Drawing Club
Year 1	Lucie	Albie	Eliza – for always trying her best
Year 2	Aiden	Patrick	Charmaine – for always having a smile and always wanting to do her best
Year 3	William	Amandine	Max – for writing a fantastic leaflet about rivers
Year 4	Izzy	Edward	Ariah – trying very hard in all she does
Year 5	-	-	At Robinwood
Year 6	-	-	At Robinwood

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin our Lenten journey—a time for reflection, renewal, and drawing closer to Christ—we are also focusing as a school on the Catholic Social Teaching principle of the Common Good. Lent encourages us to think not only about our own growth, but about how we can support and uplift one another as a community, something we have already seen lived out so clearly this week.

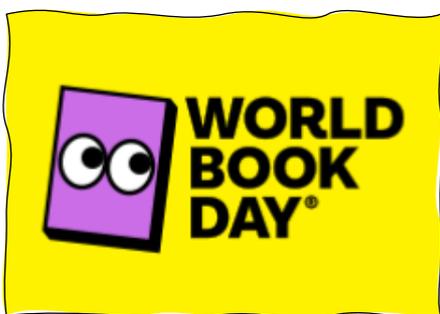
It has been a busy but joy-filled start to the half term. I spent Monday and Tuesday teaching our Reception children alongside Miss Fairhurst, before joining our Year 5 and 6 pupils on their residential. The weather was rainy for much of the trip, but the children showed great resilience and enthusiasm, embracing every activity with positivity. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the staff who made the residential possible—Mrs Bullen, Mrs O'Keefe, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Hales, Miss Hughes, and Coach Dave—as well as the staff back at school who kept everything running so smoothly. Their dedication and teamwork ensured the success of this special experience and offered a wonderful example of working for the Common Good.

I feel very blessed as we begin this new half term and look forward to journeying through Lent together.

God bless,

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

## Reminder: World Book Day



This year for World Book Day we would love for every child to dress up as a character from a book of their choice. The more imaginative and original, the better! Bonus points if the children also bring a copy of the book to show their classmates. We are also inviting all children to take part in our whole-school Bookventures competition – please see the attached info.

## World Book Day Menu

**Thursday 5th  
March**

To celebrate World Book Day, Mrs Freeman will be serving up the following themed menu:

**The Twits 'Bird Pie' (Chicken Pie and Mash)**

or

**Supertato's Super Jacket Potato**

or

**Gryffindor Red Tomato Pasta**



We've received a lovely photo of Beatrix (Reception), taken when she met **Nick Sharratt**, author and illustrator of the much-loved *You Choose* series!

## Extreme Reading Challenge!

Remember to send your extreme reading photos to the office to be featured in the Newsletter!

## Lenten Reflections

Lent is a very special time in the Church's year when we prepare for the great feast of Easter. To mark this season, we will be holding daily Lenten Prayer sessions each morning in the school hall before school starts, from **8:45am to 8:55am** led by our Prayer Leaders and Staff.

These sessions will begin this **Monday, 2nd March**, and we warmly invite you to join us if you can. They will run for four weeks, and everyone is welcome.

## Year 5 and 6 Swimming

Swimming lessons for Year 5 and Year 6 will start on the afternoon of Friday 6th March and run up until 27th March. The swimming fees for the Spring term are £11.95 per pupil. This consists of 4 swimming sessions, coach hire, hire of the swimming pool and the swimming tutor. Please log into **Arbor** to give your consent and payment as soon as possible and before 6th March. **Please note: swimming fees can be found under Trips in Arbor**

## Important - New Parent Portal – Arbor

Hopefully you 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 pay for school dinners, school trips and swimming.

**As a little incentive, the first class to have all parents and carers logged in to Arbor will receive a special treat from Miss Groarke! Reception and Year 6 are neck-and-neck, with only two families in each class still to log in. Who's going to win the race to 100%?**

**Please note: All payments must now be made in Arbor as access to ParentPay will cease on 28th February.**

## Mini Vinnie – Raffle



Mini Vinnies will be selling **raffle tickets for 50p** each at break time during Lent. Below are pictures of some of the prizes that could be won. All money raised will go to charity as part of our focus on the Catholic Social Teaching principle of, 'The Common Good'. This means that each person and creation should have enough of what they need to grow and flourish. Our chosen charity is CAFOD.

There will also be little **Lent activity books on sale for £1.00**. If you would like your child to buy any of these please send them in with the money. This will end on **Friday 27th March**.

In the week beginning 16th March, the whole school will be doing CAFOD's 'The Big Lent Walk'. This will be three laps of the school grounds as a whole class or with their buddies. All money raised will be donated to CAFOD to help bring clean, safe water to communities around the world. On Monday, your child will come home with a sponsorship form. Once you have collected your sponsorship, please donate via the following link:

<https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-vincent-knutsford>

## CAFOD Lent Walk



## Year 3 Fox Howl Information Meeting

A reminder that there will be an information meeting for all Year 3 parents and carers at **9:00am on Wednesday 4th March**. The session will cover everything you need to know about the Fox Howl residential, taking place from 7th–8th May, including activities, kit lists, and practical arrangements.

It's a great opportunity to ask questions and make sure you and your child feel fully prepared for their first school residential.

## Year 1 Phonics 'Stay and Learn'



Thank you to Mrs Webster for leading a very successful Year 1 Phonics Screening stay and learn session on Tuesday morning. It was lovely to see all the parents who were able to attend.

The children really enjoyed showing you some of the activities they do in class.

## CAFOD – Family Fast Day



Today the school marked Family Fast Day by reflecting on giving up a small treat to support others. Year 4 made and sold paper biscuits at playtime for 50p each, reminding everyone of the idea of sacrifice and generosity. All money raised is being donated to CAFOD, supporting projects such as helping a child learn to read, providing clean water, buying a cow for a family, or funding a mobile health team. Thank you to everyone who contributed and supported the children's fundraising. The school raised £33.50 for CAFOD.

## Little Champions Y3 and4

Year 3 and Year 4 took part in the Little Champions event after school, organised by the Knutsford Sports Partnership. The children enjoyed a series of fun, skill-building activities that encouraged teamwork, confidence and physical development. They represented the school brilliantly, showing great sportsmanship throughout!



So first we did some games, then we got split up into groups! Our favourite game was the rugby, and the assistants were nice lol! lol! lol! @  
ALFie and Leo!

## PTA update



**Movie Night:** Join us for an enjoyable evening as we screen **Shrek Forever After (PG)**, the film chosen by our Year 5 children. The movie night will take place on Friday 6th March, with plenty of laughs as Shrek finds himself in an alternate Far Far Away after striking a deal with Rumpelstiltskin. Tickets are **£6 per person**, which includes a drink, biscuit and crisps. **5:00–7:00pm**

### Dates for Your Diary

- Pre-loved Uniform Sale – 13th March
- School Colour Run – 12th June
- Annual Summer Fair – 4th July

## Starting Pre-school

Due to an increase in numbers, if any parents have a child who is due to start Pre-school before September 2027, please contact the Setting for an Expression of Interest form to let us know you require a place.

## 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	14	13	13

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

## Attendance

<b>Reception</b>	96.1%	<b>Year 4</b>	96.2%
<b>Year 1</b>	96.3%	<b>Year 5</b>	97.8%
<b>Year 2</b>	94.3%	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>98.7%</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	97.9%		

**WELL DONE YEAR 6 – GREAT ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!**

## Whole School Attendance for this week – 96.9%

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

LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Shreya Frances</b>	<b>Frankie Charlotte Ethan</b>	<b>Amelia</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>Archie</b>	<b>Jaxon Thomas</b>	<b>Maya</b>

## 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.

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

Full payment should be received via Arbor by **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026**.

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

Full payment should be received via Arbor by **Friday 24<sup>h</sup> April 2026**.

## Confirmation

Bishop Mark will celebrate Confirmation at St Vincent's Church on 17<sup>th</sup> June. The programme of preparation will begin with a meeting for parents and candidates at 7pm on Thursday 30 April and then an all-day session for candidates on Saturday, 9 May beginning at 10am in St Vincent's Parish Hall. Anyone in Year 8 or upwards (who is a baptised Catholic) is welcome to join the group. Registration forms can be downloaded from St Vincent's website or obtained from Father David.

## Celebrating 60 year of St Nicholas Catholic high School – JUBILEE AFTERNOON TEA ON

**THURSDAY, 26 MARCH AT 4.30PM:** Past pupils, former staff, governors and friends of the school are all warmly invited and are encouraged to write or email their memories of St Nicholas' over the years. Please book a place in advance and/or send your memories to [alumni@st-nicholas.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:alumni@st-nicholas.cheshire.sch.uk)

<b>The Week Ahead</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>End Time</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
Y5 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
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
<b>Lent Mass, School Hall – All welcome</b>	9:15am	
Y4 Clarinet Lesson - Love Music Trust	PM	
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
Y3 Fox Howl information meeting for parents	9am	
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 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
World Book Day	ALL	DAY
Rock Steady Music	ALL	DAY
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
Year 5 and 6 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 \(stvincentsknutsford.org\)](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.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** The annual ecumenical service, prepared by a group of Christian women from Nigeria, is being held at 1.30pm on Friday, 6th March, at Brook Street Chapel, Adams Hill, WA16 8DY. As we take part in this service, we join a great wave of prayer across the world.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will follow 9.30am Mass each Wednesday during Lent.