

Focus on ... Year 5

This week, Year 5 have continued their exciting learning across the curriculum. We began the week in Forest School, where the children recreated activities from Robinwood using the resources they had foraged. They were incredibly creative, building zip lines, obstacle courses and even rock-climbing walls while demonstrating fantastic teamwork and problem-solving skills.

In English, we have started reading *The Promise*. The children have been writing character descriptions and poems, while learning and applying new vocabulary.

In RE, we have been developing our knowledge of scripture and thinking about the importance of our consciences when making choices. In Design and Technology, we have been learning about nutrition and recipes, creating posters about beef production and the journey of food from farm to fork. Mrs O'Keefe has been very impressed with how well the children have used their Robinwood skills in the classroom, showing great teamwork, encouragement and determination. Well done, Year 5!



Newsletter 23

06.03.2026



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

Time to reflect

Last Sunday's gospel focus was Matthew 17:1-9, the Transfiguration of Jesus. Transfiguration means change – Jesus changed the way the disciples could see him so they would know what was real. The Transfiguration showed the disciples, and us, what was real about Jesus. Let us all try to change something for the better this week!



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	Matilda	Leo	Leonel – for having such an amazing attitude to his learning
Year 1	Marcus	Frankie	Tabby – for fantastic writing in English
Year 2	Christian	Georgia	Henry C – for such a great effort in Spelling and Writing
Year 3	Sophia	Narla	Gracie – for working really hard to improve her reading – well done!
Year 4	Harry	Lola	Charlie – working hard on his writing
Year 5	Ayden	Huey	Stanley – fantastic growth mindset in Maths – great contributions and confidence in lessons
Year 6	Evie	Thomas	Judy – excellent contributions and mature writing in RE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's now been a week since our Year 5 and 6 children — along with a slightly less energetic group of staff — returned from their Robinwood residential, and the stories are still echoing around school. The children had an incredible time, and although the adults are still recovering, it was absolutely worth every moment.

Robinwood is always a highlight of the school year, and this visit was no exception. The children showed remarkable resilience, teamwork, and courage as they tackled each challenge with enthusiasm. Whether they were climbing, problem-solving, or supporting one another, they demonstrated the very best of what we hope to nurture in them.

I even had my own personal triumph. For the first time in my life, I climbed to the top of the trapeze and jumped. It was a genuine leap of faith. As I made my way up, I found myself wondering why I had agreed to this — and yes, I did check my harness more than once, being a little bigger than the children! But the encouragement from my group was extraordinary. Their "You can do this!" attitude carried me through, and the feeling of success at the top was unforgettable.

What has amused me most this week is hearing from parents at the gate that many children have shared very little about the trip — not who their team leaders were, not what they did, and certainly not the fun they had. So I encourage you to keep the conversations going at home. Ask them about their favourite activities, the moments they felt proud, or even the parts that made them a little nervous. Once they start talking, the memories come flooding back.

God bless,

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

World Book Day

World Book Day was a brilliant celebration, with fantastic costumes across the school. We're very grateful to staff from Manchester Airport, Barclays, and Tatton Park for reading with the children and helping to inspire a love of books. The competition entries were incredible – from spoons to potatoes to boxes to 3D Character portraits – giving the School Council a real challenge. Congratulations to Henry (Rec), Leon (Y1) and Hattie (Y6) on their winning designs.



Extreme Reading Challenge Photos



Eddie reading at Jodrell Bank



Marcus reading on a horse



Carys reading and skiing



Zach reading at Twickenham



Henry reading with puppets

Robinwood

In Robinwood, my group leader's name was Nat and my group name was Volcano. I have overcome lots of fears in Robinwood, like my fear of heights and more. My favourite memories were the Giant Swing and Piranha Pool. I have learnt that when I am worried, I have support from friends.
– Zara (Y5)



Everyone was encouraging to everyone, which made me feel much better. I have pushed myself and the Year 6s at Robinwood – I was really good and I thought it would be bad. – Noah (Y5)



My group leader was Dom and he helped me overcome my fear of heights. I developed resilience, where you never give up, when we couldn't figure out the puzzle in the dungeon. My favourite memory was when we played I Can See the Moon in the Spoon. When I go to Robinwood again I will feel more confident. – Abrielle (Y5)



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.**



Lenten Prayer

Thank you to all of our families who have joined us this week for Lenten Prayer, it has been a wonderful way to start the day. We were even joined by a tiger, Paddington and Steve Urwin yesterday on World Book Day! Please do join us, it's only 10 minutes and all are welcome, **8.45-8.55am** in the School Hall.

Netball

Netball Practice starts on Friday 13th March (3.30pm-4.15pm) for Year 4, 5 and 6 - **boys and girls**. This term, Mrs Davies, Coach Dave, Mrs O'Keefe and Mrs Clarke will be leading the sessions. Numbers will be limited to 30. Please email the office if you wish your child to attend.

Year 4 Petty Pool Information Meeting

A reminder that there will be an information meeting for all Year 4 parents and carers at **9:00am on Thursday 12th March**. The session will cover everything you need to know about the Petty Pool residential, taking place from 27th-29th 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 school residential.

Parents Evenings – Tuesday 24th March and Wednesday 25th March

An email will be sent out next week with instructions on how to book your child's Parent's Evening.

Big Lent Walk

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. Once you have collected your sponsorship, please donate via the following link:

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

CAFOD A better world needs all of us

What could the money your school raises this Lent be used for?

£12 can pay to train one farmer to care for young seedlings

£36 can pay to train a floating garden farmer

THE BIG LENT WALK

£231 can pay for enough floating gardens for a farmer to feed their family for a year

£77 can pay to set up and care for one floating garden

Year 5 and 6 Swimming - Reminder

Swimming lessons for Year 5 and Year 6 have commenced today 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. **Please note: swimming fees can be found under Trips in Arbor.**

Important - New Parent Portal – Arbor

Please could parents who have yet to log in, follow the instructions in my recent 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.

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.

PTA update

The PTA has a few exciting events coming up, starting with our Movie Night tonight and followed by several dates to add to your diary:

Dates for Your Diary

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

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
22	14	24	17

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

Attendance

Reception	97.8%	Year 4	97.2%
Year 1	98.3%	Year 5	92.2%
Year 2	98.3%	Year 6	99.7%
Year 3	96.6%		

WELL DONE YEAR 6 – GREAT ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!

Whole School Attendance for this week – 97.2%

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: 27th to 29th April 2026

Full payment should be received via Arbor by **Monday 13th April 2026.**

Y3 FOX HOWL: 7th to 8th May 2025

Full payment should be received via Arbor by **Friday 24h April 2026.**

Confirmation

Bishop Mark will celebrate Confirmation at St Vincent's Church on 17th 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

The Week Ahead	Start Time	End Time
Monday 9th March – British Science Week		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
Y4 Forest School	PM	
D.R. Sports – Multi Sports (Y1-Y6) www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	3:30pm	4:30pm
Tuesday 10th March		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
PTA – Wonderdome mobile planetarium – whole school	ALL	DAY
Y4 Clarinet Lesson - Love Music Trust	PM	
Wednesday 11th March		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
ARTIS performing arts workshops	ALL	DAY
Y4 Penitential Service	2:30pm	
D.R. Sports – Dodgeball/Basketball/Netball (Y1-Y6) www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	3:30pm	4:30pm
Thursday 12th March		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
Y4 Petty Pool Information meeting for parents – School Hall	9am	9:30am
Rock Steady Music	ALL	DAY
Friday 13th March		
Lenten Prayer, School Hall	8:45am	8:55am
Year 5 Class Assembly	9:05am	
Year 5 and 6 Swimming (Remember swimming kit)	PM	
Y4/Y5/Y6 Netball with Mrs Davies, Mrs O'Keefe and Miss Clarke - email School office if your child wishes to join (Boys and Girls)	3:30pm	4:15pm
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.

Stations of the Cross: will follow 9.30am Mass each Wednesday during Lent.