

Welcome

Reception have had an amazing first two days in school!

We have loved exploring our new classroom, meeting all the members of our new St Vincent's family, exploring our school environment and having fantastic fun with Coach Dave. We are so excited for our first full days next week, before we are all together for the first time next Friday. We can't wait!



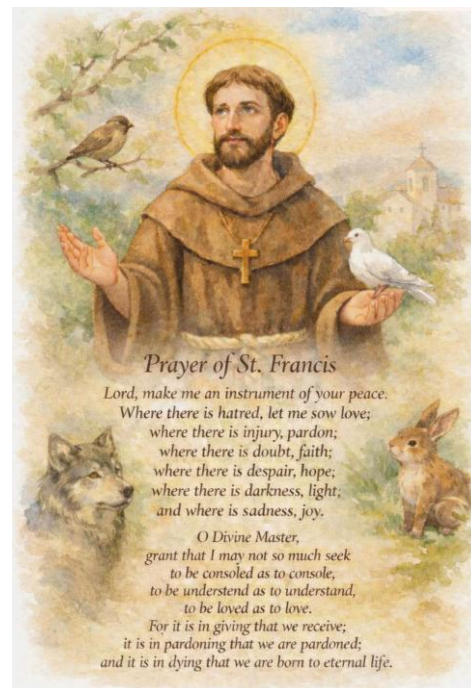
Newsletter 1

04.09.2026



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

St Francis of Assisi



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to a brand-new school year at St. Vincent de Paul!

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer, filled with happiness, relaxation and special moments spent with family and friends. It was an absolute joy to welcome the children back to school on Thursday. They arrived looking incredibly smart in their uniforms, full of smiles, excitement and enthusiasm for the year ahead. I have been so impressed by how quickly the children have settled into their new classes. They have made a fantastic start, embracing new routines, getting to know their teachers and demonstrating a real eagerness to learn. The atmosphere around school has been vibrant, positive and full of energy. I know this is going to be another exciting and successful year for our school community.

During the summer holiday, I was fortunate enough to visit Italy and spend some time in the beautiful town of Assisi, the home of St Francis. It was a truly inspiring experience. This year marks the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi, giving people across the world an opportunity to reflect on his message of peace, humility, care for others and love of God's creation.

As we begin this new school year together, let us be inspired by the example of St Francis and continue to grow as a community where every child is valued, encouraged and challenged to become the very best version of themselves.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school. I look forward to sharing another wonderful year of learning, achievement and celebration with you all.

Have a lovely weekend with your families and friends.

God bless,

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

Thank you

As we begin a new school year, I would like to thank you, on behalf of all our staff, for the many kind cards, messages and gifts we received at the end of last year. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.

During the summer, I read all of the parent and carer comments returned with the annual reports and was genuinely moved by your words. It was wonderful to read how much you value the care, support and dedication our staff show every day. An incredible 97% of reports were returned with comments, which is a fantastic reflection of the strong partnership between home and school. Thank you for your continued support.

Save the date - Cyber Security Parent Information Session

In today's rapidly changing digital world, keeping children safe online has never been more important. New apps, games, artificial intelligence, social media platforms and online trends are constantly emerging, making it increasingly challenging for parents to stay informed and help their children navigate the digital world safely. To support our families, we will be holding a Cyber Security and Online Safety Information Session on Thursday 24th September from 9:00am to 10:00am. We ask that one parent or carer from each family attends if possible, as the session will provide important information, practical advice and key messages to help keep children safe online both at home and at school. Following the presentation, parents will have the opportunity to visit their child's classroom and spend 15-20 minutes seeing their learning environment and meeting their child's teacher. The visit will conclude by 10:30am. As technology continues to evolve at such a rapid pace, working together as parents and school is essential. We hope that every family will be able to send a representative, and we look forward to welcoming you into school for what promises to be a valuable and informative morning.

Thursday 24th September

 **Cyber Security Session:** 9:00am - 10:00am

 **Classroom Visits:** 10:00am - 10:30am

Save the Date: School Parish Mass

Sunday 27th September at 11:00am will be our first School Parish Mass of the year at St. Vincent's Church. The children will be playing an important role in the celebration by welcoming parishioners, reading during the Mass, taking part in the offertory procession and singing. Please save the date in your diary and join us as we come together as a school and parish family. It would be wonderful to see as many children, parents, grandparents and family members there as possible as we celebrate the start of another school year and strengthen the special links between our school and parish communities. There will also be a Children's Fair. We look forward to seeing you there!

Dates for your Diary

Our Autumn Term 'Dates for your Diary' document which lists all the key dates for this half term is attached to this newsletter.

Lovely Staff News

We are delighted to share the wonderful news that Mrs Webster and her husband are expecting a baby late in the Autumn term. We know you will join us in congratulating them on this happy occasion. We will update families with arrangements for maternity cover for Year 1 in due course.

Inset Day – Correction: A quick correction to information that was shared with some families: our inset day will take place on Monday 2nd November, not Tuesday 3rd November.

Year 5/6 Walking Home: Please email the school office if your child has permission to walk home.

Attendance

Year 1	97.4%	Year 4	96.7%
Year 2	96%	Year 5	100%
Year 3	100%	Year 6	98.1%

WELL DONE YEARS 3 AND 5 – PERFECT ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!

Playground Routines

- The playground is supervised with a member of staff from 8.45am onwards – children should not be on the playground before this time.
- The whistle will blow at 8.55am – children line up and go into class promptly.
- Children will be dismissed at 3.25pm each day.

Please note, children are not allowed to play in the outdoor classroom, fitness zone or MUGA at the beginning or end of the day. Should you have pre-school aged children on the playground please ensure you supervise them appropriately.

Allergies

We have children in school who have a severe allergy to nuts. For that reason, we kindly ask that you do not send in any food in lunch boxes or for morning snacks which contain nuts. The Healthy Eating Policy will be sent out next week.

Should your child have a medically diagnosed allergy to any foods, please send in a copy of such advice so that the catering company can provide appropriately.

REMINDER: Dinner Money

The cost of a school dinner for KS2 children is £3.20 per day. School dinners **MUST** be paid for in advance via Arbor and the maximum in arrears amount you can now be in is one week (£16). If you should have any queries please contact Mrs Hough – finance@stvincents.cheshire.sch.uk. Thank you for your co-operation.

Volunteers

We are always looking for volunteers to help in school. If you are able to give up some time every week, please let Mrs Lees in the office know.

Data Collection – Is your data correct in Arbor?

Please could all parents log into their Arbor account to check that the information we hold is accurate and up to date. If it is incorrect, you can update it yourself through the Arbor app. It is essential that we maintain comprehensive records for every child, including contact details, medical information and consent preferences. All new parents should have received their log in details.

Sickness Reminder

A reminder that children must remain off school for 48 hours after any episode of sickness or vomiting. This helps us reduce the spread of illness and keep everyone in school healthy and well. Thank you for your support in keeping our community safe.

Holidays during term time

The law says that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless exceptional circumstances are clearly demonstrated.

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-attendance/taking-children-out-of-school.aspx>

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 must be completed and sent into school for each absence request at least 4 weeks prior to the expect

Earrings

Our school policy is for children to wear no jewellery, this includes earrings. I have noticed some children wearing earrings. School takes no responsibility to damage from wearing earrings or if they get lost. If earrings cannot be taken out, they must be very small and discreet – clear transparent studs. No earrings can be worn on PE or swimming days – they need to be taken out. If they can't be removed, as ears have just been pierced, they have to have tape on them, provided by parents.

Swimming – Years 3 and 4

As part of their PE curriculum, Years 3 and 4 will be swimming every Friday from 18th September. Please remember kits. Payment is via Arbor.

Birthday Wishes! Many happy returns for this week to:

LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS
8	11
Isaac	Carys Sebby

Netball

Netball Practice starts on Friday 11th September (3.30pm-4.15pm) for Year 4, 5 and 6 - **boys and girls**. This term Mrs Davies will be leading the sessions. Numbers will be limited to 30. Please email the office if you wish your child to attend.

The Week Ahead	Start Time	End Time
Monday 7th September		
Y6 Forest Schools	PM	
D.R. Sports – Multi Sports (Y1-Y6) www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	15:30	16:30
Tuesday 8th September		
Wednesday 9th September		
D.R. Sports – Dodgeball/Basketball/Netball (Y1-Y6) www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	15:30	16:30
Thursday 10th September		
Rock Steady Music		
Friday 11th September		
Y4/Y5/Y6 Netball with Mrs Davies - email School office if your child wishes to join (Boys and Girls)	15:30	16:30
D.R. Sports – KS2 Football www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	15:30	16:30

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



Father David and St. Vincent's Church

[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 FAIR: Children's Fair on **Sunday, 27th September**, after the 11:00 am Mass. Games, crafts, face painting, pottery painting, popcorn, quizzes, refreshments and a grand raffle for the children. Tickets £1 or £5 a strip. We need your help! Volunteers to run a stall, donations of cakes, small toys, prizes or craft materials. Raffle prizes especially welcome. Speak to Christel 07874135843. christelcasse.stvincents@outlook.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Knutsford Catenians are organising two events in September: A Barbeque on Sunday 13th, 1pm in Charlton Lodge. Also, on Saturday 26th, a sponsored walk in support of Knutsford First Responders. If you want to come along to either of these please contact events@knutsord.p17catenians.org or speak to Stuart Jones.