

Focus on ...Year 4

The first few weeks of the school year have been busy for Year 4, and we are thrilled with how well the children have adapted to their new environment and expectations.

In Forest School, we used our map reading and orienteering skills to read markers located around the school grounds. We then enjoyed some time for den building or creative design in the forest area. Our Clarinet lessons have got off to a great start and this week we have all been able to take them home to start practising. We can't wait to hear the tunes and watch the progress as the year continues.

In English, we have started work on our new book The Whale and have used some effective vocabulary to plan for an exciting narrative based at sea. During our Science lessons, we have been developing our knowledge of States of Matter. We had great fun watching the reaction between bicarbonate and vinegar to produce carbon dioxide gas to inflate a plastic glove.

In History, we created some Greek vases using our knowledge of Greek pottery and have also loved exploring the topic through our Artis sessions. What a great start Year 4!



Newsletter 4

25.09.2026



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

Time to Reflect

The gospel focus this weekend is from Matthew 21:28-32. It tells us the importance of actions not words. Jesus reminds us that doing the right thing is much better than saying you'll do the right thing but then do nothing. Let us all try to share what we have with others.



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: Faithfulness	Conduct and Courtesy	Merit award - comment
Reception	Luiz	Frank	Ada-Rose - for always following our school rules and being a wonderful role model to others
Year 1	Leonel	Leo	Jem - for working hard on his writing and recount of the story <i>Old Bear</i>
Year 2	Heath	Felix	Beth - for her constant hard work, exemplary behaviour and for also taking up the challenge of joining up her writing!
Year 3	Charmaine	Lily	Patrick - for his enthusiasm for learning and super contributions to class discussions
Year 4	Lyra	Dora	AyoOluwa - some excellent descriptions in his writing and fantastic contributions in class discussions
Year 5	Benjamin	Nel	Angel – for her fantastic work in Maths this week on number lines
Year 6	Ella	Jaxon	Thomas - for designing an amazing graffiti tag

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has certainly been another busy and exciting week at school. We began the week with a fantastic Mad Science assembly on Monday, which captured the children's imagination and sparked plenty of curiosity. It was a wonderful reminder of the many enrichment opportunities we provide beyond the classroom to make learning even more engaging and memorable.

I was also delighted to attend the Cross-Country event at Knutsford Academy last night. We took a team of 48 children, all of whom represented our school with great enthusiasm, determination and sportsmanship. I was incredibly proud of every child who took part, whether they were experienced runners or competing for the first time. Their effort, resilience and support for one another were a credit to our school. Thank you to the staff and parents who helped make these opportunities possible. It is through these experiences that our children continue to develop confidence, teamwork and a love of learning both inside and outside the classroom.

Just a reminder that we have our first Parish Mass of the year at 11 o'clock this Sunday followed by the Parish children's fair.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and have a lovely weekend.

God bless

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

The Feast of St Vincent de Paul



On Sunday 27th September, it will be the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, the patron saint of our school. He dedicated himself to serving the poor and was renowned for his compassion, humility, and generosity. Today we celebrated with a special cake baked by Mrs Freeman on the playground as a whole school community together.

Cyber Safety Workshops

Yesterday we welcomed PC Andy Kevan into school for informative and practical sessions on keeping children safe online. At St Vincent's, we know that education works best when there is a strong partnership between home and school. It was therefore lovely to welcome parents to our Cyber Security Meeting. Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend and learn more about how we can work together to keep our children safe online. Your support and involvement make a real difference to our school community. The meeting covered the latest online risks, how children are using technology, and the simple steps families can take to help protect them. Then PC Andy did workshops in each class.

Meet our new Mini Vinnies

We would like to introduce you to our new Mini Vinnies. These children all wrote beautiful letters to Mrs Davies explaining why they would be a great Mini Vinnie and the qualities they would bring to the role. Mini Vinnies live out the mission of see, think, do, supporting our school community and beyond, alongside the SVP. The Mini Vinnies are the youngest members of the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), an international Christian voluntary organisation dedicated to tackling poverty in all its forms by providing practical assistance to people in need.



Wall of Fame



Well done to the following children whose amazing work is now proudly on display on our Wall of Fame outside the school office:

- Reception – The whole Reception class for settling in so well.
- Year 1 – Albie for writing fantastic sentences about a character.
- Year 2 – Caden for a thoughtful prayer for the new school year.
- Year 3 – Lily for a beautifully written prayer for the new school year.
- Year 4 – Mia for her work on how the world was when Abraham was called by God.
- Year 5 – Joe for his excellent understanding of our Mission Statement.
- Year 6 – Oliver for his RE work showing clear understanding of the second account of Creation.

Chemistry with Cabbage

On Tuesday, Year 6 were very lucky to be visited by local chemist, Professor Lorelly Wilson, for a Chemistry with Cabbage workshop day full of practical science activities and exciting new learning. We made an indicator using red cabbage juice and tested it on lots of chemicals to find out whether they were acid, alkali or neutral. Then we discovered which chemicals curdle milk due to the effect they have on the protein molecules in the milk. We also did our own neutralisation experiments and watched a distillation, as well as finding out why carbon dioxide is so effective in fire extinguishers and why bicarbonate of soda makes cakes rise and makes a good stomach medicine! We learned so much - thank you, Professor Wilson!



Cross Country Festival

Last night saw the first event of the new primary school sporting calendar, with over 100 children from six schools taking part in the Knutsford Cross Country competition for Years 4, 5 and 6. St Vincent's put in a fantastic team performance to finish 2nd overall, with Bexton taking first place and Egerton finishing third. The evening ended brilliantly for St Vincent's in the relay competition, where we finished 1st in both the boys' and girls' relay events! A huge congratulations to our winning relay runners: Jack, Theo, Thomas, Lyra, Pippa and Carys. Well done to every child who represented St Vincent's!



Special Menu – School Census Day, Thursday 1st October

To support School Census Day, there will be a special lunch menu on **Thursday 1st October**. Children can choose from **Hot Honey Chicken Goujons**, **Cheese and Ham Panini**, or **Tomato Pasta**. They can give their choice to their class teacher when the dinner register is taken in the morning as usual.

Trampoline Day – Monday 28th September

On Monday 28th September, the whole school will be participating in trampolining workshops throughout the day. Children in Reception and Year 1 should come to school wearing jogging bottoms or leggings and their normal school tops. Years 2 to 6 should come to school in their usual school uniform. Please ensure that PE kits are in school on this day.

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
19	19	18	21

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

Attendance

Reception	96.6%	Year 4	95.7%
Year 1	95.8%	Year 5	95.7%
Year 2	100%	Year 6	95.6%
Year 3	94.8%		

WELL DONE RECEPTION – PERFECT ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!

Whole school attendance this week: 96.4%

Swimming

As part of their PE curriculum, Years 3 and 4 will be swimming every Friday until half term. Please remember kits every week – swimming costumes/trunks, swimming cap, towel and goggles if needed. Payment is via Arbor in Trips.



Year 6 Prefects

Wow! What a great group of Year 6 prefects we have this year. Choosing roles was no easy task, as every child demonstrated qualities that make them worthy ambassadors for our school. On Monday, I had the pleasure of presenting their prefect badges, and it was wonderful to see the pride and excitement on their faces as they officially began their responsibilities. Throughout the year, our prefects will play an important role in supporting younger pupils, assisting with daily school routines, and helping to make St Vincent's a welcoming and caring community for all. I know they will approach their roles with kindness, responsibility and enthusiasm, and I am sure you will join me in wishing them every success in the year ahead.

Pupil Premium Funding/Free School Meal entitlement

All children in Reception class, Y1 and Y2 are entitled to a free school meal under current Government policy; this is known as Universal Free School Meals. However, you may be entitled to Income Related Free School Meals if you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit. If this is the case, please apply for this even if your child is in Reception or Key Stage 1. The school can then claim additional funding for resources, known as Pupil Premium, which can be used to help your child when they are in school. Apply online:

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx or contact Mrs Lees in the school office.

Applications for Secondary School Places – Year 6

31st October 2026 is the deadline for applications for Secondary School places for September 2027. Please ensure you register your preferred schools by this date via the Cheshire East website –

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/start-school-september.aspx>

European Day of Languages

On Monday 28th September, we will be celebrating the European Day of Languages in school and children will be able to take part in a variety of activities involving different languages. If you speak a language other than English with your child at home, please make sure we know about it so we can celebrate it in school.

Open Afternoon

We will be holding an open afternoon on **Thursday 15th October from 2.00pm** and **Thursday 12th November** for parents of children who are looking to change school or are due to start in Reception in 2027. Please pass on this information to neighbours and friends in Knutsford. To book a slot please email admin@stvincents.cheshire.sch.uk

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Friday 2nd October

Next Friday it is Family Fast Day, a day when we try to go without a small treat and donate the money to charity instead. As a way of supporting this, our Year 6 children will be making and selling paper biscuits, at playtime, for the rest of the school to buy. The paper biscuits cost 50p each (children can buy more than one if they wish) and are a reminder of the sacrifice made in giving up a treat. All money raised will be donated to CAFOD - £10 helps a child to read, £33 supplies a family with safe clean water, £150 gives a family one cow which provides milk to drink and sell and £300 buys a mobile health team for remote communities. Please support us in our fundraising. Thank you.

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.

Staff Vacancies

We currently have a couple of vacancies being advertised on the school website. If you or someone you know may be interested, please take a look at the details online:

<https://www.stvincentsknutsford.co.uk/page/vacancies/>

Year 1 and 2 after-school club

We are pleased to offer an After-school Multisports Club for Years 1 and 2, run by Coach Dave, every Friday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm until half term (11 Sep 2026 - 23 Oct 2026).

The cost is £2 per session, and children will need to sign up for all sessions in the block (£14 in total). If you would like your child to take part, please **sign up on Arbor** as soon as possible – this will be found in Clubs.

Mad Science assembly



On Monday, we welcomed "Electric Erica" from Mad Science for a truly exciting and interactive assembly. The children were fascinated as she demonstrated a range of experiments, including spectacular water and fire demonstrations, while also sharing information about future space travel and missions to Mars. A highlight of the assembly was the opportunity for some of our pupils to get involved. Heidi and Archie bravely volunteered to assist with experiments exploring gravity and the properties of water, helping to bring the science to life for everyone. The assembly sparked plenty of curiosity and enthusiasm, and it was wonderful to see the children's excitement as they experienced science in such a memorable way. There will be an after-school Mad Science club starting in November – leaflets were sent home with the children.

The Week Ahead	Start Time	End Time
Monday 28th September		
European Day of Languages	ALL	DAY
Trampoline Day	ALL	DAY
Y3 Forest Schools	PM	
D.R. Sports – Multi Sports (Y1-Y6) www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	15:30	16:30
Tuesday 29th September		
Reception Stay and Learn	9am	10am
Y4 – Love Music Trust Clarinet Lesson – please remember your instrument		PM
Wednesday 30th September		
ARTIS performing arts workshops	ALL	DAY
D.R. Sports – Multi Sports (Y1-Y6) www.drsportsclubs.co.uk	15:30	16:30
Thursday 1st October		
School Census Day – Special Menu	ALL	DAY
Rock Steady Music		
Friday 2nd October		
Family Fast Day – Paper Biscuits Sale		
Y3/Y4 Swimming – payment via Arbor. Don't forget swimming kits!	PM	
Y4/Y5/Y6 Netball - email School office if your child wishes to join (Boys and Girls)	15:30	16:15
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 20p or £1 a strip – these will be on sale on Wednesday and Friday after school on the playground.

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