

## Focus on.....Year 6

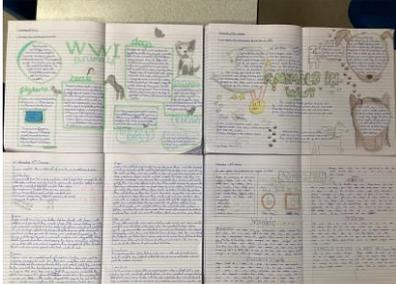
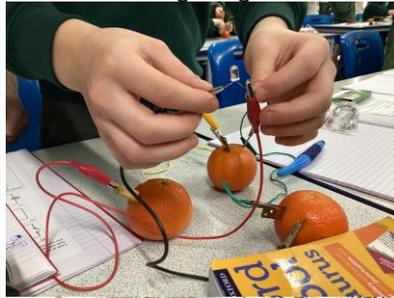
Year 6 have begun Spring term with a very busy first week. On Monday, during Forest School with Miss Hughes, we made bridges and experimented with using different natural materials to create secure and stable structures which would support vehicles and withstand aerial bombardments!

We finished our Science topic on electricity this week by investigating which fruits and vegetables could be used as batteries! Did you know that potatoes, lemons, kiwis and tomatoes all produce enough of a Voltage to power a small LED bulb?!

In our history lesson this week, we were fascinated to learn about how animals played vital roles during World War One and we produced some fabulous double page spreads in our books to celebrate the work of dogs, pigeons, horses and other animals - even camels and elephants!

In English, we are continuing with our project on Neil Gaiman's dark version of Hansel and Gretel. Mrs Bullen was very impressed with our character descriptions this week. This gem from Georgie was especially impressive, written about the children's mother: *As the pages turn, the cold-hearted, ruthless mother becomes greedy and selfish, devoid of the maternal affection that most mothers bestow upon their precious children.*

Together with continuing to focus on calculating with fractions in Maths and learning all about Sport vocabulary in French, it's safe to say we've earned a restful weekend before we go again next week!



## Newsletter 16

12.01.2024



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

## Time to Reflect by Mrs Davies



This week the focus was 'The Epiphany of the Lord' - Matthew 2:1-12. We hear how the Magi (the Wise Men) travelled from the East to see the Christ child. The word 'Epiphany' comes from the Greek, meaning 'showing' or 'manifestation'. It marks the end of the 'Twelve Days of Christmas' but not the end of the Christmas season which concludes at the Baptism of the Lord on the 8th January. We think of there being three men because there were three gifts, but Matthew does not mention a number. In the Eastern Churches, the tradition is that there were 12 Magi! The names by which we know the Magi in the West are Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar and they brought expensive gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. What gift can we give to someone this week? It doesn't need to be expensive!

Happy new year!

## Behaviour Awards

**Good Conduct Award** – Excellent attitude in all aspects of school life.

**Courtesy Award** – Good manners and polite behaviour.

**Merit Award** – Super work and effort in a particular area of the Curriculum.

Year Group	Good Conduct	Courtesy	Merit award - comment
Reception	Georgia	Christian	Annabelle – fantastic effort with her independent writing.
Year 1	William	Isabella P	Milan – fabulous phonics and always trying hard.
Year 2	Lola	Juliet	Charlie – has been trying his best to be a great x2.
Year 3	Marissa	Jaxon	Jenson – having an amazing attitude towards work.
Year 4	Amelia	Jane	Mark – working really hard in all aspects of school.
Year 5	Santi	Mia	Ferreira – a great piece of writing in English.
Year 6	Elliott	Isla	Georgie – a shining double page spreadsheet about animals in WWI.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all. I hope you all managed some rest and relaxation time over Christmas and New Year. We've had a very busy first week in 2024 and our children have started back with extremely positive attitudes for the year ahead. They have all come back full of enthusiasm for their learning. For some of us it's been quite a shock to the system getting back into the school routine – I'm sure there will be some very tired children (and adults) this weekend!

Have a lovely weekend.

God bless,

Miss Groarke and everyone at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary School

## Thank you!

Thank you for all your kind words, cards, and gifts before Christmas. It was lovely to receive so many positive emails about how much you enjoyed the Infant Christmas nativity in School and Junior Carol Service in Church. There is a lot of time and effort that goes in to put on these events behind the scenes and we really appreciated such positive feedback.

## Curriculum Overviews

Details of the curriculum being covered in each class are to be found in the Curriculum Overviews sent home today. Homework timetables are also included but please be aware there are occasional variations in juniors so check homework diaries for the tasks set. The diary is also a place where parents can communicate with teachers and vice-versa. Please do spend a little time chatting with your child about homework and if you have any resources or expertise that you could offer, please don't be shy – let your child's teacher know!

## KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts)

The Spring term KIRFs have been sent home tonight, please pin them up somewhere visible at home so that your child can look at them each day. The expectation is that children will learn these facts and use them in other aspects of their Maths work in school.

## Looking Further Ahead

Our Spring Term 'Looking Further Ahead' document which lists all the key dates for this half term including Parents' Evenings, is attached with the newsletter and on our website.

## 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. Andrew	St. David	St. George	St. Patrick
21	17	26	13

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

## Attendance

<b>Reception</b>	99%	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>99.4%</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	98.6%	<b>Year 5</b>	94.2%
<b>Year 2</b>	97.7%	<b>Year 6</b>	95.4%
<b>Year 3</b>	89.6%		

**WELL DONE YEAR 4 – AMAZING ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!**

## Keep in your prayers

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you of the death of Tony Ranfield, husband of Mrs Ranfield and father of grandfather to a parent and children in our school. Tony was also a previous governor of our school.

We are also sad to inform you of the death of Tony Weir, a previous Chair of Governors at St. Vincent's. They both have contributed a lot to our school to make it the place it is today. Please remember their families and friends in your prayers.

## Young Voices – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024

An email was sent yesterday, regarding The Young Voices concert on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at the AO Arena in Manchester, to the parents/carers of the children that signed up for the after-school choir back in September 2023. We assumed that the children that signed up would also be attending the concert, (as stated on the original emails regarding the choir). At this stage, we need confirmation of which children will definitely be attending in order for the office to book transport. After we have received all your responses, Mrs Watson will then email to let you know the cost of the coach. Please reply to the email BEFORE MONDAY 15th JANUARY to let Mrs Watson know if your child will or will not be attending the concert. Many thanks.

## Family Help Team

All families and young people need a bit of help from time to time: the Family Help Team are there to do just that. They have a drop-in session at each of our Family Hubs/Childrens Centres where members of the team will be on hand to provide free information, advice and support. They support families with children aged 0-19 (25 with special educational needs and disabilities) and aim to make it easier for you to ask for help, and get you the right support at the right time and if this isn't us we will make sure you are in touch with other services which may be able to help.

### **Your drop ins are 10-12 and are held at;**

Congleton Family Hub – every Monday (except bank holidays)

Ash Grove Family Hub – every Monday (except bank holidays)

Oakenclough Family Hub – every Tuesday

Hurdsfield Childrens Centre – every Wednesday

Macclesfield Family Centre, Macclesfield Town Hall – every Thursday

## Parental Focus Group about wrap-around services.

Please find attached a poster that advertises the parental focus groups to gather their views on current wrap-around services in Cheshire East. All parents and carers are invited to join, and they are especially keen to hear from parents and carers of children with SEND. The direct booking link is:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/wraparound-childcare-in-cheshire-east-parents-2970169>

## Children due to start Reception in September 2024

The closing date to make an application for a child to start primary school in September 2024 is Monday 15th January 2024 – this is for children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020. Late applications may be disadvantaged. Parents who are unable to apply online can apply by telephone on 0300 123 5012. <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/admissions.aspx>

## Non-prescribed Medication

Any medicines which haven't been prescribed by a GP or hospital will not be administered in school and therefore must not be brought into school or sent in with your child. This is in line with our school policy and Local Authority Guidelines. This includes lip balms and throat lozenges. Thank you for your cooperation.



Welcome back to a new year everyone! Hope you all had a very happy and blessed Christmas break and you're feeling ready to take on 2024!

## PTA Fun Ball Friday Lottery

Today was the first PTA Fun Ball Friday draw of the Spring Term. Today's lucky ball was number 10. Congratulations to Miss Groarke!

Each lotto number costs £2 a week, purchased via ParentPay. We have also decided to extend the term offer until Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January - pay £20 upfront for the remaining 11 weeks and therefore get 1 draw free! There is no limit to the number of balls you can purchase. It's as simple as that! If your number gets drawn (on a Friday), your child gets to choose a ball and you get to collect a cheque for the winnings from the office the following Monday. Winners are announced in Friday's Newsletters. It's such an easy fun way to raise money for our school and each week someone wins a cash prize and a child wins a ball. What's not to love?! Please sign up and enter the draw today via ParentPay. Good Luck!

Apologies for the late cancellation of our PTA meeting this week. Hope that didn't inconvenience any of you. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 7:30pm at The Angel on King Street. Please make note of the change of venue. As always all are welcome and we encourage that at least 1 or 2 parents from each Year Group attend. Thank you.

We have a **Roberts Recycling clothes collection** happening next Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January. If you have any clothes and shoes that you're happy to get rid of, please can we ask you to bag them up (you can use any bin bag) and bring them into school any time before the 18<sup>th</sup>. You can drop them off under the lean-to outside the kitchen. School will also be open this Sunday between 10am-11:30am to accept drop-offs if that proves more convenient for you. The bags will be collected and weighed by Roberts Recycling and our PTA will then get the weight equivalent in pounds. It's a really easy way to raise funds for our school so please will you help us by filling up a bag? Thank you.

Year 3 parents are hosting a **Movie night** for all our children on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January in the school hall. All our children are invited to enjoy an evening of **Elemental**. Children to arrive at 5.15pm for a 5.30pm prompt start. Parents need to collect children at 7.30pm. Tickets can be bought through ParentPay, until 12 o'clock on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January. We are asking for a suggested £5 donation and this will include a packet of crisps and a chocolate biscuit. Children can bring their own water bottles and a cushion/pillow and are welcome to wear PJs/onesies.

## Birthday Wishes!

Many happy returns for this week:



<b>The Week Ahead</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>End Time</b>
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
<b>PTA Clothes Drop Off, School Car Park</b>	10:00	11:30
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
<b>Y5 Forest Schools</b>	PM	
<b>Y4 Wider Opportunities Music</b> – please remember instruments	PM	
D.R. Sports After School Club	15:25	16:30
Recorder Club	15:25	16:00
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
R/Y1/Y2 Stay and Read Session	9:05	9:20
D.R. Sports After school Club	15:25	16:30
KS2 Love Music Trust Choir – sign up via ParentPay	15:25	16:25
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
<b>PTA Robert Recycling Clothes Collection</b>	AM	
Rock Steady Music		
<b>Y5/Y6 Sports Hall Athletics, Knutsford Academy</b>	14:45	17:00
<b>PTA Meeting, The Angel, Knutsford</b> – everyone welcome	19:30	20:30
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
<b>Y3/Y4 Swimming</b>	PM	
D.R. Sports – After School KS2 Football	15:25	16:30
<b>PTA Movie Night, School Hall</b> – tickets via ParentPay	17:15	19:30

\* DR Sports After School Clubs are booked directly through their website at [www.drsportsclubs.co.uk](http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk)

**St. Vincent's out of school club – 8am – 6pm** They provide a breakfast and after school club each weekday during school term time for children aged 2 and above. [St Vincent's Pre-school - Out of School Club \(stvincentspreschool.co.uk\)](http://stvincentspreschool.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.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS** each Saturday from 11.30am-Noon