

Focus on.....Year 4

Monday was an incredibly busy day. We had a fabulous time in Forest School, spending most of the morning outside building model volcanoes. We worked in teams, used our knowledge of the structure of volcanoes and even used chemical reactions with vinegar and baking soda to create the lava. It was great fun and our teachers were most impressed with our teamwork!



On Monday afternoons, we have our Love Music Trust lessons and we are becoming much more confident when playing our instruments. We had great feedback about our performance before Christmas and will be visiting The Bridgewater Hall to play with the Halle Orchestra later this year.

On Tuesday, Paul Sturgess visited school and worked with each class on basketball skills and tricks. We were amazed at how tall he was and also how incredibly skillful he was.

In Science, as part of the topic on Sound, we have been investigating the effect of distance on how well sounds can be heard from a source. Working in small groups, we used data-loggers to measure the change in decibels and noticed moved further away from a very noisy alarm the sound level reduced.



In English we are enjoying reading the book the Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo which is set in Africa and in Artis we have been exploring how we can use our bodies to create the types of animals that would be found at the watering hole which features in the story. Have a look at the photographs. Can you guess which animals we are making?



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

Time to Reflect by Mrs Davies

**"Christ has no body but yours,"
by St. Teresa of Avila**

Christ has no body now on earth but yours;
Yours are the only hands with which
He can do His work.

Yours are the only feet with which
He can go about the world

Yours are the only eyes through which
His compassion can shine forth upon a
troubled world.



Christ has no body on earth but yours.

This week's gospel focus was Mark 1:14-20 and we learnt how Jesus called his disciples to follow him. We are all called to follow Jesus and bring goodness to the world. Here is one of the many prayers we say in School, it reminds us that it is up to us to carry on Jesus' work of loving and caring for people. At St. Vincent's, our children really do try hard to live out this prayer in many different ways – visitors often comment on how well behaved, kind and caring they are. A credit to us all!

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	Reggie	Nathan	Robyn- for a fantastic week and a positive attitude towards her work!
Year 1	Narla	Isabella M	James – great effort with his handwriting.
Year 2	Derik	Benjamin	Harrison – for great effort in class and for his contributions!
Year 3	Huey	Zara	Henry – amazing attitude towards all lessons!
Year 4	William	Freddie	Bobby – attitude to independent learning.
Year 5	Olivia	Freddie	Emma – writing a super informal letter.
Year 6	Lily	Daisy	Maison – excellent editing when drafting a story ending.

Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of another busy and successful week. We're getting close to the end of January - it's February on Thursday! In school this week we have had some very extra special events with Paul Sturgess telling us all about basketball and being in the Guinness World Record books on Tuesday and Rock Steady concert on Thursday. These have been inspirational events and have delighted all the children and adults too.

Have a lovely weekend.

God bless,

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

Paul Sturgess

On Tuesday, we had a visit from the tallest man in basketball: Paul Sturgess. Paul measures 7ft 7in and is currently also the tallest man in Britain! He began the day with an inspirational assembly during which he gave an account of his life growing up, the challenges he faced and how he managed to turn something that makes him different into a positive. He showed us both his entries into the Guinness World Records books. Then, throughout the day, Years 1 to 6 took part in Basketball Workshops and Paul also visited our Reception class for 'fun and tricks'! We finished the day with a 'Question and Answer' session and found out a few more interesting facts about Paul – he eats 9000 calories a day and has 7 meals! The whole school was buzzing with excitement all day and I am sure this will be a very memorable experience for all children and Staff! We look forward to welcoming Paul back into school again in the future.



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	18	19	23

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

Attendance

Reception	96.9%	Year 4	95.8%
Year 1	98.3%	Year 5	99.7%
Year 2	93.7%	Year 6	96.2%
Year 3	97.6%		

WELL DONE YEAR 5 – AMAZING ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!

Sacramental programme

This is a very special year for our Year 3 pupils as they prepare for their First Sacraments. The programme will be led by our Parent Coordinators in the Parish, Jo Whitworth and Colette Makin, with Father David. The first meeting with parents will take place on Wednesday 31st January in St. Vincent's Parish Hall at 7pm. On Sunday 4th February there will be the Enrolment Mass at 11am in St Vincent's church – you are all very welcome to join us. Please remember to keep all the children and their families in your prayers.

Rock Steady Concert

On Thursday afternoon, we had our third Rock Steady Concert in school that had been postponed before Christmas. There were 8 bands that performed and they all had the audience clapping and completely involved. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 performed with confidence and big smiles on their faces. It was a wonderful musical experience and opportunity for them to perform to an audience. We are all very proud of what they have achieved. Thank you to Joe from Rocksteady for his enthusiasm and hard work!

<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>



Fundraising



Our Young Voices choir who will be going to the AO Arena in Manchester on the 6th February are raising money towards the cost of the coach. They have been on the playground this morning at break time and will be on again all next week. Then the draws will take place in assembly on Monday 5th February. Children can bring money to school next week, to guess the name of the soft dog toy, guess the number of sweets in a jar, buy a ticket to win a signed basketball by Paul Sturges and also buy a chance to win a free Summer term of Rock Steady Music lessons. Each activity costs 50p a go and children can have as many goes as they wish. All proceeds will go towards the coach to the AO Arena and any money over will go into school fund.

Whole School Mass

Father David will be celebrating Mass in the school hall on Tuesday 30th January at 9.30am. You are all welcome to join us.



PTA Fun Ball Friday Lottery Today was the Third PTA Fun Ball Friday draw of the Spring Term.

Today's lucky ball was number 5. Congratulations to parents of Alissa (Y4) and Oliver (Y1)!

Each lotto number costs £2 a week, purchased via ParentPay. 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!

We are very happy to report that from our ever-successful Movie Night, we managed to raise **£491.76!** That's a terrific amount so thank you to everyone that bought tickets and to all the children who came and enjoyed the film.

From the recycling bags that we collected we raised **£59** from Roberts Recycling. Thank you to those who filled bags and brought them into school.

A little financial update that came out of our PTA meeting last week...so far this academic year, our PTA have successfully raised a very impressive **£4,181.35**. A big thank you to all our active PTA members and to all our families for their ongoing generous contributions and support.

Dates for your diary...

From Monday 29th January, we are doing a **collection of any 'residential-type' clothing and walking shoes** that you're happy to part with and pass on to another child. We find that every year our Year 3-6 families - whose children go on residentials - are looking for extra bits and pieces and don't necessarily want to have to buy new items. So, we're stepping in to hopefully solve that problem by accepting donations of old walking shoes, jumpers, long sleeve tops, joggers, gloves, beanies, etc. We will let you know when the collected items will be displayed for you to come and have a look. If you have donations to make, please drop them off at the Reception Office over the next couple weeks. Thank you.

27th February: **School uniform sale** before school drop-off, in the hall.

7th March: **Next PTA meeting** at The Angel on King Street at 7:30pm. All are very welcome.

Monday, 18th March – Friday, 22nd March: **Book Fair**. We will be looking for volunteers to help us with this event so please watch out for PTA WhatsApp messages.

27th March: PTA will hold a **Tuck-shop** in the playground after school on break-up day.

The Week Ahead	Start Time	End Time
Monday 29th January		
Y3 Forest Schools	PM	
Y4 Wider Opportunities Music – please remember instruments	PM	
D.R. Sports After School Club	15:25	16:30
Recorder Club	15:25	16:00
Tuesday 30th January		
Whole School Mass, School Hall – all parents/carers welcome.	09:30	
Wednesday 31st January		
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
Y3 First Sacraments Programme - first meeting for parents, church hall	19:30	20:30
Thursday 1st February		
Rock Steady Music		
Reception Little Champions, Knutsford Academy	16:00	17:00
Friday 2nd February		
Extra Rock Steady Music Day (from December 2023)		
Y3/Y4 Swimming	PM	
D.R. Sports – After School KS2 Football	15:25	16:30
Sunday 4th February		
Y3 FHC Enrolment Mass, St. Vincent's Church	11:00	

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

Birthday Wishes! Many happy returns for this week:



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