

Focus on ... Reception

What an amazing first half term in school Reception have had! This week we have been looking at signs of Autumn. We started our week with a nature walk around the school grounds to look at how our environment is changing. We noticed that the leaves are starting to change and fall to the ground and the weather is also changing. We collected lots of lovely autumn leaves for our activities in the classroom.

Whilst on our walk we saw something very exciting happening on the field.... Andy Burgess had come to install the new butterfly bench. Andy talked to the children about what he was doing in school and told us all about the special equipment that he uses including his tractor and trailer. He then invited us to come down at the end of the day to see the bench in place. It's safe to say the children were very excited and we can't wait to use this space.



In RE this half term, we have been thinking about all the wonderful things that God has created for us, including ourselves. We have been considering how special we are, and talking about what makes us each unique. This week we have been thinking about how much God loves us all. We made some beautiful collage artwork to remind us of this.



We are so proud of our amazing Reception class and how well they have settled into school life. We are looking forward to our next adventures in Autumn Term 2!

Newsletter 8

25.10.2024



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

Gospel Values

Our gospel value this week is **humility**.



This week, our gospel focus was Mark 10:35-45 and was all about service to others. Political rulers and leaders of countries often enjoy their power and make sure everyone knows they are in charge. But in this gospel, we are reminded that anyone who wants to be great must become like a servant, looking after people.



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: Humility	Conduct and Courtesy	Merit award - comment
Reception	Rafe	Lara	Eddie – for fantastic artwork in R.E.
Year 1	Annabelle	Hugo	Theo – wowing Miss Billington with his spellings and always trying his best.
Year 2	Lyra	Freddie	Lillie – a great effort working independently on her poem.
Year 3	Eva	Theo F	Rhea – fantastic news paper report on Mr Fox.
Year 4	Marissa	Ella	Stanley – trying hard with comprehension.
Year 5	Ethan	Sadie	Grace F – for fantastic letter writing in English this week.
Year 6	Theo	Joel	Gianna – for being a pleasure to teach.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Where has this half term gone? Eight weeks have flown by! On Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights this week we have had Parents Evenings. It was lovely to have had so many positive comments and see so many happy parents after they had spoken to teachers. I would like to say a big thank you to all the staff for their dedication, teamwork, enthusiasm and drive to give your children the best possible education going this half term. Thank you also to all children, parents, carers and governors who have helped staff make school so successful. Have a fantastic ten-day break, relax and recharge those batteries with your friends and family. We will see you again on Tuesday 5th November.

God bless,

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

Year 4 and Reception Mass

Thank you to all the families and staff who were able to make it to Mass last Sunday. It was a special Mass led by Year 4 as they are buddies to the new Reception class. It was lovely seeing all the smiling faces, when the children introduced their buddies to their parents after Church. Thank you, Father David, and everyone who made this such a success especially the school staff and all the mums served all the teas and coffees.



The year 4 children wrote about all the different roles they had and how they felt:

'I felt excited and nervous to do the reading but I did feel really special to stand up and bow. I enjoyed reading, it felt nice.' Beatrice Y4.

'I felt happy when giving out hymn books because I got to welcome people to Church.' Thomas Y4.

'When I did a bidding prayer, I felt happy and proud after my bidding prayer', Ella Y4.

'I liked doing the collection because I felt happy because it was easy and I thought I was going to mess up but I think I did really well', Noah Y4.

'I felt very happy bringing the Offertory because I got to see the Reception children smile all the way to the Altar', Sebby Y4.

It was lovely to receive an email from a Parishioner "What a wonderful delivery of the readings and bidding prayers by Year 4 children today. They were all confident and clear in their delivery. It was also great to see all the families supporting the children and Year 4 Mass and I'm sure they too will be very impressed by the children's participation, delivery and celebration of Mass today. Well done and I am so proud of you all and a special thanks to all the children."

Harvest gifts – Mini Vinnies

On Monday the Mini Vinnies packed up all the harvest gifts and they were taken to Hope Central. We received an email from Hope Central:

Thank you so much for choosing to support Hope Central this year through your Harvest Festival Collection. The supplies will help to support our foodbank, we offer this service to local people in our community who are in need, usually following adverse circumstances in their lives. The people whom we work with are so grateful for support, one of the families who received a hamper commented, "Thank you for your amazing help. We don't know how we would have managed without your help." Another lady has allowed us to share her story about the help she received from us - do click on this link to watch a video about her. <https://youtu.be/bqkcW-bGRZE?si=TkbDEtix4xUfl4Lc>



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
16	21	20	24

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

Attendance

Reception	93.6%	Year 4	91.2%
Year 1	86.3%	Year 5	97.3%
Year 2	95.7%	Year 6	92.2%
Year 3	92.3%		

WELL DONE YEAR 5 – AMAZING ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!

Overall Half Term Attendance

Reception	98.3%	Year 4	94.8%
Year 1	95.1%	Year 5	97.1%
Year 2	98.1%	Year 6	95.6%
Year 3	97.6%		

WELL DONE RECEPTION – AMAZING ATTENDANCE THIS HALF TERM!

Y5 & Y6 Swimming

Swimming lessons for Year 5 and Year 6 will start on the afternoon of Friday 8th November and run every Friday up to and including 13th December. The swimming fees for the Autumn term are £17.80 per pupil. This consists of 6 swimming sessions, coach hire, hire of the swimming pool and the swimming tutor. Please ensure you log into ParentPay to give your consent and payment as soon as possible and before 6th November. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Diocesan Building Fund

We have now collected **£695** on ParentPay for this year's Diocesan Building Fund. Please contribute (a minimum of) £15 for each child you have at the school. Thank you so much for your continued support – your contributions mean that less money will have to be taken from the school budget to make up our optimum amount of £3000.

School Open Afternoon

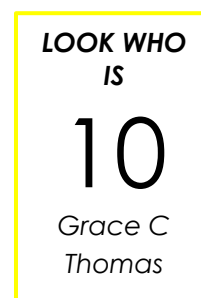
We will be holding our second open afternoon at school on **Thursday 7th November from 1.30pm until 3.00pm** for parents of children who are looking to change school or are due to start in Reception in 2025 and 2026. Please pass on this information to neighbours and friends in Knutsford and surrounding areas. To book a slot please email admin@stvincents.cheshire.sch.uk



Y3/Y4 Rugby Taster

Yesterday, Y3 and Y4 children enjoyed a rugby taster, organised by Knutsford Academy and Knutsford Rugby Club. The children had a great time, learning some new fun skills.

Birthday Wishes! Many happy returns for this week and during half term to:



Butterfly chair

'On Monday morning we went down to the field to meet Andy Burgess. Andy is a woodcrafter and he had made a stunning butterfly chair in memory of Lucas Briscoe, a past pupil of St. Vincent's. We helped measure where the chair would go, we started with 10 feet but then went down to 9 feet using a tape measure. We saw a big truck with all the logs in it. The actual butterfly chair came at 11.30am and we were amazed! It's a phenomenal addition to the school field, providing a great seating area for all the children to relax, reflect and watch football if they want to!', Grace F and Hattie - Y5 School Councillors.



Today, Nicola Marshall, mum to Lucas Briscoe who died at the age of 12 years old in 2019, came to look at the Butterfly chair and read a story to the Reception class.



Y1/Y2 Junk Modelling After School Club

Miss Billington will be doing a Junk Modelling club on a Wednesday after school from 6th November for 4 weeks. Junk modelling involves making things out of recyclable materials and everyday household items. The children will be encouraged to design what they would like to make before making it. We will provide the *junk* (recyclable materials), glue, and all the equipment children need to get really creative. Some weeks Miss Billington will choose a theme, other times, she will encourage the children to let their imagination run wild! The club will run from the end of the school day to 4.25pm. Places are limited and need to be booked via ParentPay.



Y1/Y2 Dance Taster

Y1 and Y2 children enjoyed a Dance event with the members of the dance team at Knutsford Academy. The children took part in a warmup session and learnt part of a dance routine.

Poppy Appeal

We will be selling Royal British Legion Poppy merchandise via ParentPay again this year. Suggested donations are on the attached list.



Fun Ball Friday -

Congratulations to the winner of the fourth draw of this year: Number 19 – parents of Judy (Y5). You have until 5pm on a Thursday to buy (via ParentPay) your PTA Fun Ball for Fridays draw, at a cost of £2 per ball.

Our **next PTA meeting** will be after half term on Thursday 7th November at 7:30pm at The Angel. As always, all are very welcome.



Competition – School Council

On Friday at our School Council meeting, it was decided to hold a poster competition with prizes for everyone who takes part. After half term is our Friendship, Anti-Bullying Week. This will take place from Monday 11th - Friday 15th November, with the theme: Choose Respect. The theme is to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes. So we are asking everyone to make a poster about friendship, choose respect. The closing date for all entries is Thursday 7th November. The School Council will pick the winning entries on Friday 8th November. The winning posters will be displayed around school.

Pre-School Open Morning

St Vincent's Pre-school is holding an Open Morning on Saturday 9th November from 10.00am – 12.00pm. Booking is advised, but walk-ins are welcome. We have dedicated, long serving, experienced staff, are Ofsted rated 'Good' and have Achieved Gold Standard 'Just Quality Award'. We are piloting running a holiday club, starting during spring half term in February 2025. Please contact Cath Davies 01565 651948, cath@stvincentspreschool.co.uk or via our website – www.stvincentspreschool.co.uk We look forward to meeting you!

Parking and Driving

This is a reminder that it is 20 mile an hour on the streets around St. Vincent's school. Over the past few weeks parents dropping off and collecting their children have been seen coming down Thorneyholme Drive and Manor Park South at speeds way above the limit for built up areas close to schools. Please drive and park appropriately near school as it is all for children's safety.



Reading for Pleasure

'Marcus has a favourite book called Party Panda! We read this book often at bedtime as Marcus loves the hand puppet and parties! The book shows a range of emotions and the joy of friendship.' Reception.

Don't forget to email in suggestions for books you have enjoyed reading together and a photograph of you reading as a family to admin@stvincents.cheshire.sch.uk Every recommendation with a photograph will get a Head Teacher Award and pictures will appear in the newsletter

Save the date

Year 6 and Year 2 will be leading Mass on Sunday 17th November at 11am at St. Vincent's Church. This Mass will be another buddy Mass, this time led by our Year 6 and 2 children. More information will follow after half term.

The Week Ahead	Start Time	End Time
Monday 4th November		
INSET Day – no school for children		
Tuesday 5th November		
Back to School	08:55	
Poppy Appeal begins– please buy items via ParentPay		
Bikeability for Y4 and Y6	ALL	DAY
Music Ninjas – Piano lessons		PM
Wednesday 6th November		
ARTIS performing arts workshops	ALL	DAY
Bikeability	ALL	DAY
Stay and Read – Reception, Year 1 & 2	15:05	15:20
D.R. Sports – Dodgeball/Basketball/Netball (Y1-Y6)	15:30	16:30
'Timid to Tiger' Session, School Hall	17:00	18:30
Thursday 7th November		
Rock Steady Music	ALL	DAY
Open Afternoon	13:30	15:00
Miss Hyland's Eco Committee	15:30	16:15
PTA Meeting, The Angel	19:30	20:30
Friday 8th November		
Y5/Y6 Swimming - Don't forget swimming kits!	PM	
KS2 Choir with Mrs Cox – School Hall	15:30	16:15
D.R. Sports – KS2 Football	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.

SVP APPEAL: Can you donate any old foreign coins or notes to support the SVP Children's Holiday Camps for those families living in poverty that cannot afford a holiday. Please place them in the containers provided in the porch at Church.