

Focus on ... Year 1

Wow! We cannot believe we are at February half term already! We have been super busy in Year 1 over the past 6 weeks.

In English, we have been looking at a new book called 'Hermelin.' It is all about a detective mouse who returns peoples belongings. We have been learning to write our own recounts by splitting our writing into paragraphs. First, we focused on our Octopus Opening before moving onto our Build up Bear, then we introduced our Problem Penguin and finally finished with the Elephant Ending. This has really helped us with our writing and Mrs Webster is blown away by our writing!

In Geography, we have been looking at different types of weather and learning to read weather reports. We have looked at the weather in Knutsford and compared it to other locations in the UK and around the world. This week we had a go at being weather reporters.

In RE, we have been learning about Jesus' early life and how he grew up. We also learnt about Jesus choosing his friends, his disciples, and we made our own story puppets so we can share the story at home with our family.



Newsletter 21

14.02.2025

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:
FORGIVENESS

Let all that
 you do be
 done
 in **LOVE**
 1Corinthians 16:14

Matthew 5:38-48 talks about the importance of loving everyone. Jesus tells us to be kind and loving, not just to our friends, but also to our enemies. We all have been given the gift of love, and we are encouraged to share that gift 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: Forgiveness	Conduct and Courtesy	Merit award - comment
Reception	Eliza	Caden	Tabitha – for a fantastic first week at St. Vincent's.
Year 1	Robyn	Charmaine	Nathan – always listening attentively and contributing to class discussions.
Year 2	Freddie	Jack	Isabela M – for always trying her best and for her fabulous tidying and organising of her table!
Year 3	Isla	Alfie	Theo C – for pushing himself with his writing.
Year 4	Stanley	Jaxon	Oliver C – working very hard in maths this week.
Year 5	Judy	Molly	Daisy – for always working hard, being polite and being a fantastic member of the class.
Year 6	Harrison	Heidi	Jeswin – for always listening well in class and putting his hand up more in maths lessons.

Dear Parents and Carers,
Half term already, and half the academic year gone! Thank you to all the children and staff for all their hard work this year so far; it has truly been a productive and busy time. Have a wonderful week off whatever you are planning to do, and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday 25th February.
Have a lovely holiday.
God Bless.
Miss Groarke and all the staff at St. Vincent's.

Safer Internet Day: "Too Good to Be True? Protecting Yourself from Online Scams"



On Tuesday, we celebrated Safer Internet Day. In classes we carried out discussions and activities around this year's theme of protecting ourselves online from scams. We looked at what scams are and what they might look like to us if we are online. In year 5 and 6 we did enjoy looking at some AI generated images, although it did make us realise how easy it is to be fooled by fake images! The biggest message the children have taken away from this is that, if in doubt, they should always speak to a trusted adult before clicking on anything on a device.

Year 5 Coding Lesson

On Monday in assembly, we were joined by Coach Roz and Coach Andy from Jam Coding. They spoke to the children about coding and the different jobs that involve coding. It was exciting to hear how Coach Andy has helped banks stop criminals from stealing money from them by using his knowledge of coding! Year 5 were then treated to an amazing workshop where they had the choice to engage with one of two different activities:

Just Dance (Introduction to AI and machine learning): Children started to learn how to add data to a machine learning model in order to create their very own Just Code Dance game using artificial intelligence AI. First, they tested out the machine learning model by holding a Micro: Bit, then doing moves like dabbing and flossing repeatedly to train the model. They then uploaded this movement data into a machine learning model and tested that it recognised the dance move and that their data was recognised using repetition. This is the first stage to creating a Just Dance game!

'Game Building' (Visual Programming): The children were introduced to computer programming in a fun 3D environment whilst getting them excited about potential careers in computer science by allowing them to create their own games with sprites and a terrain they designed. This makes them producers of their own media rather than just consumers of it. This helped the children to begin understanding the steps involved in creating a computer game and improve problem solving visually.

What a fantastic workshop it was! Thank you to Coach Roz and Coach Andy for coming in. Lots of children are very excited about joining the Jam Coding club after school next half term!

World Book Day – 6th March

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

This year, we are celebrating World Book Day with a relaxing twist and coming to school in our pyjamas! We encourage all students to wear their pyjamas and bring a favourite book to share with their friends. World Book Day is a wonderful opportunity to inspire a love of reading and encourage children and families to experience the joy that books bring. Reading has the power to spark imagination, expand knowledge and change lives. Let's make this day special by relaxing, sharing stories, and celebrating the magic of books together!

Focus On.....Reception

We've been very busy in Reception this week...

On Tuesday, we had our "Stay and Learn" session. The focus of this was Physical Development. We invited parents to school to learn about what we do in Reception. They then came to join in with our exciting activities in the classroom. We had lots of activities to show everyone how we are developing our gross and fine motor skills. Thank you to everyone who was able to make it. We had lots of fun!

On Wednesday we had our half termly "Stay and Read" session, it was lovely to see so many parents/grandparents joining us to read some of our favourite stories.

In Maths this week, we have been focusing on odd and even numbers. We have been using ten frames and counters to play odd and even games. We noticed that if a number is even, it has a pair and if it doesn't have a pair then it is an odd number.

In Art, this half term, we have been exploring clay. Throughout the unit we have been learning to use a range of different tools safely and confidently. We thought about our favourite animals and created some designs. Once completed we carefully made these from clay. This week, once the clay was dried, we decorated them using paint. We think they look amazing and can't wait to take them home with us.

What a fantastic half term it has been! We are looking forward to more adventures in Reception in Spring 2.



Wall of Fame

The following students have been selected by their teachers to be featured on the Wall of Fame, displayed outside the office. Congratulations to all of them for their creativity and outstanding work! Please come and look at their amazing work.

Reception – Olivia – writing about 'Down in the Jungle.'

Year 1 – Henry - writing about 'Hemelin'.

Year 2 – Isabella P – Writing in RE about the Baptism of Jesus.

Year 3 – Alfie – D&T his model of a castle.

Year 4 – Sebby – RE writing 'Don't leave your cross.'

Year 5 – Thomas – writing a cliff hanger 'The Hound of the Baskervilles.'

Year 6 – Ferreira – writing about 'Hansel and Gretal' a dual narrative.

Choir fund raising

A huge thank you to all the children that contributed to the choir's fundraising efforts this week by bringing in money to guess the name of the teddy, estimating the number of sweets in the jar and buying cakes. The choir managed to raise a total of £182! This will go towards covering the cost of the coach for the Young Voices event after half term.



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
20	21	15	14

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

Attendance

Reception	97.6%	Year 4	95.9%
Year 1	94.8%	Year 5	96.1%
Year 2	93%	Year 6	96.9%
Year 3	92.3%		

WELL DONE RECEPTION – EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!

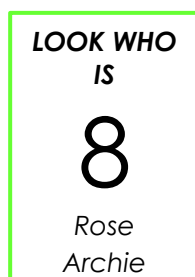
Science Ambassadors



Congratulations to our Science Ambassadors. We look forward to them promoting science in school.

Birthday Wishes

Many happy returns this week and over the holidays to:



Lenten Reflections

Lent will start on Ash Wednesday which is March 5th. We will be having a service in school on Wednesday 5th March at 2.30pm where all the children will receive ashes. All parents, grandparents and family members are invited to come and join us to receive ashes. Lent is a special time in the Church's year when we prepare for the great feast of Easter. To mark this season, we will be holding daily Lenten Prayer sessions each morning in the school hall before school starts, from 8:45am to 8:55am. These sessions will begin on **Monday 10th March**, and we warmly invite you to join us if you can. They will run for three weeks. They are open to pupils, parents, grandparents, family, and friends and provide a wonderful way to start the day.



Lent walk for CAFOD

During Lent we are going to take part in The Big Lent Walk. We will be walking at some point during the day in Lent for a set amount of time to raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. Money raised will go to CAFOD. More information about this will come out after half term.

The Week Ahead

Start Time	End Time
------------	----------

Monday 24th February

No school for children – INSET DAY

Tuesday 25th February

Back to school

08:55

Y2 Weaver Hall visit – permission and payment via ParentPay

ALL

DAY

Young Voices Concert – Coop Live Arena, Manchester

12:30

22:30

Music Ninjas – Piano lessons

PM

Wednesday 26th February

ARTIS Performing arts workshops – all classes

Y5/Y6 After School Sports Club – sign up via ParentPay

15:30

16:30

D.R. Sports – Multi Sports (all years)

15:30

16:30

Thursday 27th February

Rock Steady Music

Y4 Petty Pool Parents Information Meeting – School Hall

09:00

09:30

Rec/Y1/Y2 'Introduction to Gymnastics' after school club – sign up via ParentPay

15:30

16:30

Y5/Y6 Quad Kids event – Knutsford Academy

16:00

17:00

PTA Meeting – The Angel, Knutsford. All parents/carers welcome

19:30

20:30

Friday 28th February

Y5/Y6 Swimming – Please remember costumes/towels/caps/goggles

PM

D.R. Sports – KS2 Football

15:30

16:30

Y3-Y6 After School Netball Club – sign up via ParentPay

15:30

16:30

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

Household Support Fund - HSF

An extension to the Household Support Fund (HSF) was announced by the UK government on 02 September 2024. The fund will cover the period from 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025. In Cheshire East, the HSF grant provides crisis support to financially vulnerable households most in need. The fund is also available to support those adults and families struggling to afford household basics including food, energy, and wider essentials. Miss Groarke can refer financially vulnerable adults and families that are within our school community. This fund is available until 28th March 2025. If you feel that you could benefit from a referral, please make an appointment to see Miss Groarke.



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.

CAMBODIA LINK: Fr David is visiting Fr Totet now. He will celebrate Mass with the Parish there and to see how their work is progressing. He has taken all our good wishes and prayers to them. The Church now have a special bank account for the link with Fr Totet and his work in Cambodia. When he visited last year, we promised to help him raise \$40,000 to build a classroom to support his work with children. If you would like to donate, please make cheques payable to "Knutsford and Lymm Cambodia Link." Cash Donations would be welcomed and if you would be interested in taking out a standing order to make a regular donation please give your name to Fr David. You can also make payments direct via BACS to Knutsford and Lymm Cambodia Link, Lloyds Bank, Account No. 68321468; Sort Code 30-15-52.