

ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs A Harrop MEd NPQEL
Orchard Road
Altrincham
WA15 8EY

Email: admin@stvincents.trafford.sch.uk
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23rd February 2024

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

I hope you enjoyed the half term with your family and were able to engage in lots of fun activities.

As usual, we have many exciting learning opportunities happening this half term. Please see information below regarding the curriculum and Lenten activities for this half term.

LITURGICAL SEASON OF LENT

School Values: **Make a Difference** **Be Passionate about Learning** **Be Kind** **Be Respectful**



As our Lenten journey begins, we will make time to renew our trust in God's love and mercy. Our children will make their Lenten promise and carry out acts of kindness for their Lenten buddy.

Please click onto our Lenten planner to view all the activities taking place this term: [Lenten Planner](#)

Our Lenten Masses for KS1 and KS2 will take place on Thursday 29 February at 9:05am and all parents are very welcome to attend.

A Prayer for Lent

*Please Lord, guide my mind with your truth.
Strengthen my life by the humble, obedient example of Jesus.
He fulfilled your will by becoming human and suffering with us.
He died so that I would no longer be separated from you.
Help me to feel how close you are and to live in union with you.*

Amen



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LUNAR NEW YEAR



This week the children are enjoying learning about Lunar New Year. Assemblies and workshops have taken place where the children have learnt more about how the Lunar New Year is celebrated. Mrs Dong spoke to us about the Year of the Dragon and the different animals who took part in The Great Race. She told us about the many traditions for Lunar New Year's Eve, which include deep cleaning houses before putting up lots of decorations and eating traditional meals. We found out about the Lion Dance and Lantern Festival too. The children have really enjoyed learning about this festival and it has linked with our Other Faiths topic of Buddhism, which Year 1 and Year 4 are studying.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL BE STUDYING THIS TERM

School Values: Be Passionate about Learning



This half term the children will be gaining lots of new knowledge and skills. Please follow the year group page to find out the topics your children will be learning about. If you would like to know more about a subject, please follow the curriculum link below to see how the curriculum allows children to know and remember more.

<https://www.stvincents.trafford.sch.uk/page/curriculum/63387>

YEAR GROUP CURRICULUM PLANNERS

School Values: Be Passionate about Learning



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The curriculum planners for this half term for each year group are on our website. Please follow the link to find out how you can support your child with their learning.

[EYFS Curriculum Overview Spring 2024](#)

[Year 1 Curriculum Overview Spring 2024](#)

[Year 2 Curriculum Overview Spring 2024](#)

[Year 3 Curriculum Overview Spring 2024](#)

[Year 4 Curriculum Overview Spring 2024](#)

[Year 5 Curriculum Overview Spring 2024](#)

[Year 6 Curriculum Overview Spring 2024](#)

CURRICULUM KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS

School Values: Be Passionate about Learning

Know More
Remember More

In order to keep you updated on your child's learning in school, teachers have posted knowledge organisers for foundation subjects on their Google Classroom Pages. These organisers are used regularly by the children in their classrooms. They contain the essential knowledge and key vocabulary for the topics they will be studying this half term.

CURRICULUM UPDATES

School Values: Make a Difference Be Passionate about Learning Be Kind Be Respectful

This week we have added the Computing Curriculum update to the newsletter. You can also follow the link below for all other curriculum updates: [Curriculum](#)



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Computing and Online Safety Curriculum Overview



Be Respectful - We develop respect and tolerance for others by learning about different places and cultures.



Be Kind - We learn about our place in creation to be compassionate citizens of the world.



Be Passionate about Learning - We challenge ourselves to know and understand the world better.



Make a Difference - We learn about our place in the world so that we can responsibly make a difference and look after our planet.

Computing at St Vincent's

Our Computing curriculum is carefully designed to ensure a progressive and coherent learning journey across all year groups. We believe in a hands-on, practical approach to learning, where pupils are actively engaged in real-world activities that promote problem-solving and collaboration.

Computing is divided into 3 key areas: **Digital Literacy and Online Safety, Computer Science and Information Technology.**

By the end of their primary education, pupils will have developed a deep understanding of computational thinking, algorithms, and coding concepts. They will be proficient users of various software tools and show a high level of digital literacy. Pupils will be confident in using technology to enhance their learning experience across the curriculum.

The intent of our Computing curriculum is to:

- Empower future innovators and digital citizens.
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Foster digital wellbeing and awareness.

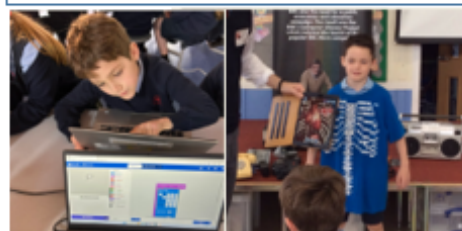
Spring topics

These are the topics being taught in computing:

Year 1	Digital Imagery / Bee bots
Year 2	Scratch Junior / Word Processing
Year 3	A journey inside a computing / Databases
Year 4	Investigating <u>weather</u> / HTML
Year 5	<u>Micro:bit</u> / Stop Motion Animation
Year 6	Big Data 2 / Bletchley Park

Date for your diary!

Safer Internet Day this year is on Tuesday 6th February 2024.



Online Safety

At St Vincent's, we work with parents to create a school community which values the use of new technologies. Through enhancing digital learning, we encourage the responsible use of technology, and follow agreed policies to ensure pupil safety. In an ever-changing technological landscape, it is crucial that we work together to help children deal with a range of situations when using the internet and other digital technology. Please find a link below to our website which has a range of websites and resources for parents in supporting the education of online safety at St Vincent's. <https://www.stvincents.trafford.sch.uk/page/on-line-safety/22408>

Have you heard of computational thinking?

Computational thinking is about thinking in a logical way. It is broken into five different strands: decomposition, pattern recognition, abstraction, debugging and algorithm design. These can be used in all areas of the curriculum and there are many cross-curricular links.

Decomposition is breaking something down into smaller parts.

Pattern recognition is looking for similarities and trends.

Abstraction is focusing on what is important and

Did you know?

All games have ratings to help adults make informed choices about them. They are called PEGI ratings (Pan European Game Information) and they give an age rating as well as informing if the game contains violence or bad language. Look out for these symbols on games.

TWO LEVELS OF INFORMATION AS A GUIDE: THE PEGI AGE LABELS



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WORLD BOOK DAY 2024

School Values: Be Passionate about Learning

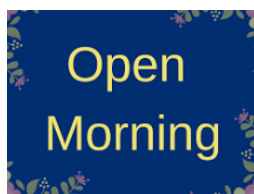


World Book Day will be taking place on Thursday 7 March 2024.

This annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and the pleasure of reading is one of the highlights of our year at school. World Book Day provides a fantastic opportunity to focus on reading for pleasure, supporting children's autonomy in book choice, and embedding a joy of reading that brings a wide range of benefits. World Book Day 2024 will celebrate that children are more likely to enjoy reading when their choices are championed and we make reading fun. 'Read Your Way' encourages everyone to let go of pressure and expectations, giving children a choice – and a chance – to enjoy reading. The children may dress up as their favourite character from a book or bring in a prop to talk about. We are hugely excited about the range of activities that we will be taking part in; from a live event with an author to reading with our reading buddies!

OPEN MORNING

School Values: Make a Difference Be Passionate about Learning Be Kind Be Respectful



We will be having our Open Morning on **Wednesday 6 March**. Prospective parents are welcome to tour the School and Nursery so please let friends and family know should they wish to attend. All bookings can be made via the School Office (admissions@stvincents.trafford.sch.uk) and the following tour times are available: 9:15am, 9.45am, 10.15am and 10.45am.



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ATTENDANCE

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Please see below the attendance percentages for the **last week before the half term holiday**.

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
RML	94.5	2AB	98	4CG/EL	95.3
RLT	94.35	2OW/CR	92.35	5CL	95.65
RLD	96	3DM	96	5LM	94.35
1AM	98	3LH	99.4	5DH	98.35
1MH	95.3	3CN/JJ	92.9	6NS	98.7
1CR	92	4ML	93.65	6SK/CO	95.65
2LC	96	4JK	95	6DB	93.5
Overall percentage: 95.5%					

DATES FOR SPRING 2 HALF TERM

Day	Date	Event	Location
Monday	26 February	Start of Lenten Fundraising	
Monday	26 February	Reception Parents 'Stay and Play': Miss Turnbull's class 9:15am	Reception classes
Tuesday	27 February	Reception Parents 'Stay and Play': Miss Doherty's class: 9:15am	Reception classes
Wednesday	28 February	Reception Parents 'Stay and Play': Mrs Lawrence's class 9:15am	Reception classes
Thursday	29 February	Lenten Mass: 9:05am	Infant hall Junior hall
Friday	01 March	Parents 'Stay and Share' : 8:30am:Y1-6	Y1-6 Classrooms



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Friday	01 March	Year 1 Disco	Infant hall
Friday	01 March	Years 3 and 4 Film Night	Junior hall
Wednesday	06 March	Open Morning	Across school
Thursday	07 March	World Book day	
Thursday	07 March	KS2 Class Assembly 9:05: led by Y3 Mrs Needham/Mrs Jennings' class	Junior hall
Thursday	07 March	Y3 Sacramental Programme First Holy Communion Meeting: 6:30pm	Junior hall
Friday	08 March	Parent's 'Stay and Pray': 9:15am Led by Y4	Junior hall
Friday	08 March	Year 2 Disco	Infant hall
Friday	08 March	Year 5 and 6 Film Night	Junior hall
Monday	11 March	British Science & Engineering Week	-
Thursday	14 March	KS2 Class Assembly 9:05am: led by Y3 Miss Hutton's class	Junior hall
Friday	15 March	Parent's 'Stay and Pray': 9.05 led by Y3	Junior department hall
Monday	18 March	Y1 Lenten liturgy dress rehearsal	Infant hall
Tuesday	19 March	Y1 Lenten liturgy 9.05am	Infant hall
Tuesday	19 March	Y4 Parent Meeting- Multiplication Check	Junior hall
Wednesday	20 March	Y1 Lenten liturgy: 9.05am	Infant department hall
Thursday	21 March	KS2 Class Assembly 9:05am: Led by Y6 Mrs O' Keefe/Miss Kirk's class	Junior department hall
Thursday	21 March	Parents' Evening 3:45-7pm	Both department halls
Monday	25 March	KS2 Lenten Service: 6:30pm	Holy Angels Church
Thursday	28 March	KS2 Class Assembly 9:05am: Led by Y4 Mrs Gerrard/Mrs Leather's class	Junior department hall
Thursday	28 March	PTA Easter Eggstravaganza: 3.30pm	Infant hall and playground
Thursday	28 March	School closes for Easter	-
Easter Break			



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We offer an open door to parents. If you have any questions about school life, please liaise with your class teacher. Mrs Farrell (infant deputy head), Mrs Sutton (junior deputy head), and I are also available to work in partnership with you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harrop
Headteacher

