

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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8th March 2024

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

LITURGICAL SEASON OF LENT

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

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development



We are continuing to carry out our Lenten walks to raise funds for CAFOD. Thank you for your generosity. Our school has donated enough funds to make us number one on the CAFOD giving leader board! This is a great achievement so thank you for your support for this important charity.



In this year of prayer and throughout Lent we are focusing on the power of prayer. In addition to the prayer below, there are some prayers on the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/prayer-resources/lent-prayer-2024>

***Loving God,
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you.
Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude,
so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.
Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of
body and soul and remind me of the grace of simplicity.
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing,
re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.
May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle
my love for and faith in you.
Amen.***



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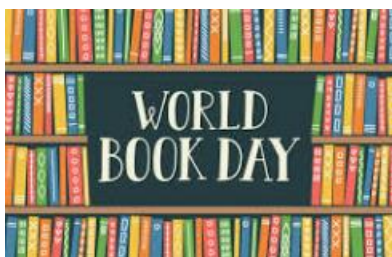
LEADING PARENT PARTNERSHIP AWARD



Following an assessment day, we are delighted to share that we have again been accredited with the nationally recognised Leading Parent Partnership Award. We are delighted that the assessor recognised our commitment to working in partnership with parents. There are many opportunities for parents to be involved in school life and we value your support.

Our next opportunity to meet with you is at **Parents Evening on Thursday 21 March**. Please book your parents evening slot by logging on to school spider on the website.

WORLD BOOK DAY



School Values: Be Passionate about Learning

It was wonderful to see the children dressed as their favourite book characters on World Book Day. The children had a wonderful time sharing stories with their buddies. It was wonderful to celebrate the pleasure we get from reading and the types of genres we enjoy.

We were also very excited to receive a special message from Alisha Weir who is playing Matilda in the musical. She wished us all a wonderful world book day! Please see the link to see the message.

<https://twitter.com/StVincentsPr/status/1765776455256920125>



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SCIENCE WEEK



Next week we will be celebrating British Science Week. The children will be conducting experiments, researching scientific areas and learning from expert speakers.

British Science Week is an annual celebration of scientific knowledge and understanding across science, technology, engineering and maths. The theme of this year's British Science Week is time and observations we can make of changes over time. This includes looking at the natural world and how plants, animals and humans all change and grow. We will also learn about how technology has evolved over time

CURRICULUM UPDATES

School Values: Be Passionate about Learning

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



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Geography Curriculum Overview



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



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



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



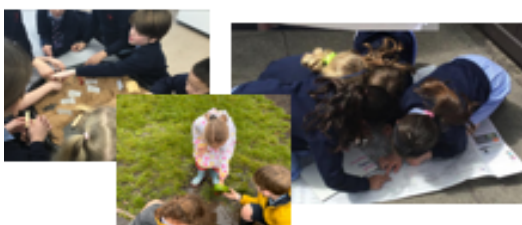
Make a Difference - We learn about our place in the world so that we can responsibly make a difference and look after our planet.

Geography at St Vincent's

At St Vincent's we provide children with a rich and varied curriculum, teaching knowledge of key concepts such as different environments, cultures and places throughout the world. Through a planned and sequenced approach, which includes fieldwork and mapping, our Geography curriculum engages, inspires and challenges children's fascination and curiosity about the world around them.

To engage the children we endeavour to keep topics current and relevant such as 'How are we damaging our world?' 'Where does our food come from?' Learning is revisited and built upon each year, ensuring knowledge and skills are embedded, in order to prepare children for their journey beyond the primary classroom.

Fun Facts:



Spring Term

These are the geography topics being taught in the spring term:

EYFS	Why does a polar bear live in the Arctic?
Year 1	Where in the world do these people live?
Year 2	Where does our food come from?
Year 3	Is the UK the same all over?
Year 4	How does our water go round and round?
Year 5	Is North America just the USA?
Year 6	What did Darwin discover about South America?

Have a look at our website for the other topics we learn throughout the year.

<https://www.stvincents.trafford.sch.uk/page/geography/134291>

Have you ever logged onto Digimaps?

Digimap for school is an easy to use, online resource providing access to OS mapping from across Great Britain at a variety of scales. This includes beautiful historical mapping from the 1890s and 1950s provided by National Library of Scotland, as well as cloud-free aerial photography provided by Getmapping.

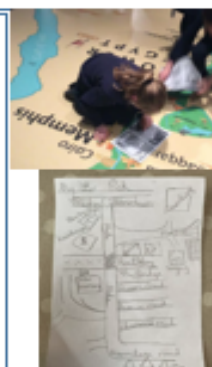
Have a go at home, can you see how your road has changed over the years?

<https://digimapforschools.edina.ac.uk/>

Username: WA158EY
Password: gnaes2482

Fieldwork Fun

Fieldwork is the jewel in the crown of geography and we enjoy bringing our learning outside and using different resources at St Vincent's to bring geography to life. Fieldwork engages children with real-world learning and connects them to their local environment. It also helps embed knowledge and deepen the understanding by promoting curiosity, creativity and critical thinking.



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ATTENDANCE

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



Please see below the attendance percentages for **last week**.

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
RML	93.9	2AB	97.5	4CG/EL	96.9
RLT	95.75	2OW/CR	97.7	5CL	96
RLD	94.6	3DM	96.95	5LM	95.95
1AM	96.8	3LH	95.6	5DH	96.5
1MH	97.1	3CN/JJ	95.95	6NS	97.05
1CR	96.2	4ML	96.3	6SK/CO	97.65
2LC	96.75	4JK	96.3	6DB	95.75
Overall percentage: 96.35 %					

DATES FOR SPRING 2 HALF TERM

Day	Date	Event	Location
Monday	11 March	British Science & Engineering Week	-
Thursday	14 March	KS2 Class Assembly 9:05am: led by Y3 Miss Hutton's class	Junior department 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 department hall
Tuesday	19 March	Y4 Parent Meeting- Multiplication Check	Junior hall



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Wednesday	20 March	Y1 Lenten liturgy: 9.05am	Infant department hall
Thursday	21 March	Parents' Evening 3:45-7pm	Both department halls
Monday	25 March	KS2 Lenten Service: 6:30pm	Holy Angels Church
Tuesday	26 March	KS2 Class Assembly 9:05am: Led by Y4 Mrs Gerrard/Mrs Leather's class	Junior department hall
Wednesday	27 March	KS2 Class Assembly 9:05am: Led by Y6 Mrs O' Keefe/Miss Kirk's class	Junior hall
Thursday	28 March	PTA Easter Eggstravaganza: 3.30pm	Infant hall and playground
Thursday	28 March	School closes for Easter	-
Easter Break			

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