

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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15th March 2024

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

LITURGICAL SEASON OF LENT

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

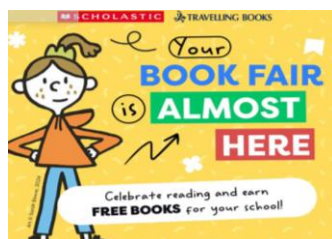


In this year of prayer, Year 3 have been very busy with leading prayer. It was lovely to welcome the Year 3 children from St Joseph's and St Margaret Ward's Catholic Primary Schools this week as part of our Catholic schools prayer trail. The children participated in beautiful reflections about Lent. It was wonderful to see the children mix together and make new friends.

Yesterday we enjoyed a Year 3 assembly all about being unique and having mutual respect for one another, one of the Fundamental British values.

We also enjoyed a very prayerful Stay and Pray session today where parents also attended and participated in prayer.

PARENTS' EVENING AND BOOK FAIR



We are looking forward to holding Parents' Evening next week. It is essential that we meet parents to celebrate to talk through the progress their child is making and celebrate their achievements. If you have not yet booked, please book your appointment time through School Spider accessible via the school website

During parents' evening, we will be holding Scholastic Book Fairs in both departments. For every book sold, we earn vouchers to buy new books for our school libraries and classroom reading corners. If you would like to visit the fair and buy a book, there will be card readers available, cash cannot be accepted. We look forward to seeing you there.



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ASSESSMENTS

School Values: Be Passionate about Learning



Would you like to know more about how the children are assessed? Our school website details how we assess the children. By assessing the children we can ascertain how much they know and remember. Children are assessed using formative and summative tests. Please follow the link to our website for more information: [How we assess the impact of the curriculum](#)

End of Key Stage Year 2 Testing Overview:

[Information for parents optional tests at the end of keystone1](#)

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check:

[Information for parents multiplication tables check](#)

End of Key Stage Year 6 Testing Overview:

[Information for parents tests at the end of keystone 2](#)

CAREERS EDUCATION PARENT VOLUNTEERS

School Values: Make a Difference Be Passionate about Learning



We would like to invite parents to talk to the children about different careers as part of our Small Steps, Big Dreams careers education. We are looking at how we can link lessons to the skills needed for various careers. This initiative will also provide opportunities for children to meet inspiring employers so they can explore different jobs and understand the skills they will need for the future. We are looking for a range of careers for children to learn about in the week beginning 22nd April 2024 and if any of our parents can help, we would be grateful if you could please complete [this form](#) by 25th March. We will then review the range of careers and be in touch with you.

CURRICULUM UPDATES

School Values: Be Passionate about Learning

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



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History Curriculum Overview



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



Be Passionate about Learning - We challenge ourselves to know and remember more about the past and how it has shaped our present.



Be Kind - We learn about the past in order to learn more about ourselves; we develop compassion in this way.



Make a Difference - We develop our thinking skills to be ready for our next steps.

History at St Vincent's

History at St Vincent's Catholic Primary School is about inspiring children with a curiosity about people, places and events from the past. Children will study a range of different historical periods. They will consider continuity and change over time, cause and consequence of key events alongside comparing similarity and difference to life today.



History Enquiry

Historical enquiry is at the heart of our curriculum. We use enquiry-based questions to stimulate and challenge our children's thoughts and questions. In history, we equip pupils to think critically, examine evidence and be able to argue confidently from different viewpoints. Pupils are taught to understand the diversity of societies and the importance of finding their own identity. Historical investigations, hands on experiences, and visitors and trips, give our children opportunities to develop enquiring minds and an appreciation for the past.



History Day

In Summer 1, we dedicate a day to celebrate the history taught within our curriculum. During this day, each year group will be assigned a time period of history linked to a topic previously taught to the year group or one which follows. The children are encouraged to dress within the theme of their chosen topic and cross-curricular lessons are planned to excite and support each child's learning and curiosity.



Did you know?

Chapel Street, Altrincham, was recognised by King George V, who himself dubbed it the 'bravest little street in England', as, from just 60 or so terraced houses, 161 men had enlisted during WW1.

EYFS: Children develop understanding of the world around them, themselves and their families. They play with household items from the past and develop an understanding of timelines.

Year 1: Children explore the lives of our grandparents with a focus on shops. They also delve into the world of Great Explorers, including Christopher Columbus, Ibn Battuta, and Sunita Williams. The study of 'The First Flight' involves comparing pilot Amy Johnson and the Wright brothers, as well as revisiting Bessie Coleman from Black History Month.

Year 2: Children learn about significant events such as Remembrance Day, Bonfire Night, The Great Fire of London, and Live Aid, understanding their continued significance. They also examine the changes in seaside culture since the 1950s. Additionally, they study local heroes and places, including Marcus Rashford, George Mottershead, and Dunham Massey.

Year 3: The focus is on the Stone, Bronze, and Iron Age, with children using artefacts to infer how people lived. They also participate in a Neolithic Family workshop. Furthermore, they learn about the achievements of the four Ancient Civilizations, with a detailed study on the Egyptians.

Year 4: Ancient Greece is studied for its influence on our world today, followed by an exploration of the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. The children then investigate the eruption of Pompeii and the archaeological remains that provide insights into the Roman town.

Year 5: Children delve into the period after the Romans left Britain, focusing on the Anglo Saxons and Vikings. They also explore the historical significance of Benin 1,000 years ago and the methods through which we gather knowledge about it.

Year 6: The focus is on the history of Manchester throughout different ages. This carries on children's chronological narrative of war from the Victorian era and also looks at how WW1 began, how it ended and how it had an impact, as the peace treaty signed eventually led to another World War just 20 years later.



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ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION

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



The NSPCC website offers parents a wealth of information about online safety. This includes information about keeping children safe online, raising awareness of the issues that children face online, and aims to support parents and carers in having early and regular conversations with children regarding keeping safe online.

There is an on demand online safety workshop which parents are welcome to attend. The link is below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/free-online-safety-group-workshops/>

Here are some other helpful resources from the NSPCC:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-wellbeing/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

X (TWITTER)



Do you want to know more about school life? Our X account gives a great insight into the life of our school. We regularly update our school X (Twitter.com) page with all of the exciting events, lessons and enrichments that happen in school every week. Please follow us on **@StVincentsPr**.



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SCHOOL COUNCIL



Our school council have been very busy with lots activities. Please read about their activities and articles in the newsletters on our website: [School Council News](#)

ATTENDANCE

School Values: Make a Difference Be Passionate about Learning



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

We do not authorise school holidays in term time. If you child is absent, we require the specific reason for absence.

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
RML	93.85	2AB	97.4	4CG/EL	96.85
RLT	95.85	2OW/CR	97.65	5CL	96
RLD	94.55	3DM	96.75	5LM	95.8
1AM	96.8	3LH	95.65	5DH	96.45
1MH	97.1	3CN/JJ	96.05	6NS	97.1
1CR	96.2	4ML	96.1	6SK/CO	97.4
2LC	96.85	4JK	96.1	6DB	95.85
Overall percentage: 96.3 %					



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Please note the term dates for 2023-24 and 2024-25.

[Term dates 2023 2024](#)

[Term dates 2024 2025](#)

DATES FOR SPRING 2 HALF TERM

Day	Date	Event	Location
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
Wednesday	20 March	Y1 Lenten liturgy: 9.05am	Infant department hall
Thursday	21 March	Parents' Evening 3:45 - 7pm	Both department halls
Friday	22 March	Year 5 Music Concert 10.00am	Junior department hall
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 department hall
Thursday	28 March	PTA Easter Eggstravaganza: 3.30pm	Infant hall and playground/junior 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

