

# ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

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9 May 2025

## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

### WE WELCOME POPE LEO XIV



As a school community, we join Catholics around the world in prayer and reflection following the passing of Pope Francis. We now welcome and pray for the newly elected Pope, Robert Prevost, who has taken the name Pope Leo XIV. We hope that the Holy Spirit guides him with wisdom, compassion and strength as he leads the Church. Let us keep him in our prayers as he begins this important mission of faith and service.

### PRAYER FOR POPE LEO XIV

Lord God,  
We thank you for our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV.  
Fill him with Your Spirit of truth and love.  
Guide him in leading the Church with courage, humility and grace.  
May his heart remain close to Jesus and open to the needs of the world.  
Amen.

### COMMEMORATING VE DAY

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



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This week, we took some time to mark VE Day, a moment of great historical significance that marks the end of World War II in Europe on 8th May 1945. The children learned about the importance of peace, remembrance, and gratitude for the sacrifices made by those who served.

Across the school, children took part in age-appropriate activities to deepen their understanding of VE Day. From storytelling, to learning about wartime Britain and holding moments of reflection, pupils showed great respect and curiosity throughout the discussions.

VE Day gave us a chance not only to look back but also to talk about the importance of unity, kindness and working together for a better world. The values of courage and community were at the heart of our reflections, and we are proud of how our children engaged so respectfully.

## SUPPORTING OUR PUPILS DURING EXAM SEASON

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



As we journey through test season, particularly with our Year 6 pupils taking their SATs, we hold them in our prayers and celebrate their dedication and resilience. At St Vincent's, we believe that each child is wonderfully made by God, with gifts and talents far beyond what any test can measure. We remind them that their worth is found not in scores, but in their character, kindness, and the love they share with others. We are proud of them all and ask God to bless them with calm, confidence, and peace during this time.

## SATS PRAYER FOR YEAR 6

Dear God,

As our Year 6 pupils begin their SATs,  
we ask for calm minds, steady hands, and peaceful hearts.

May they remember all they have learned,  
and feel confident in their own hard work and abilities.

Help them not to worry or be afraid,  
but to trust in themselves and know that they are so much more  
than any test score.

Bless their teachers, families, and friends,  
who have supported them along the way.  
And may they know that, whatever happens,  
they are loved, valued, and full of potential.

Amen



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Please see some useful advice for supporting children during their tests:

[Navigating exam season resources - Place2Be](#)

## SCHOOL LUNCHES

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Is your child currently eating a packed lunch? Consider the benefits of switching to one of our specially prepared school meals:

- **Nutritionally Balanced** – Our meals are designed to meet government nutritional standards, ensuring your child receives the right balance of protein, vegetables, fruits, and whole grains.
- **Healthier Choices** – Packed lunches can vary in quality and often contain more processed or sugary items, whereas our meals are planned with health in mind.
- **Variety and New Tastes** – School dinners offer a wider variety of foods, helping children try new things and become less fussy eaters.
- **Convenience for Parents** – Preparing packed lunches every day can be time-consuming. Choosing school meals saves you time and simplifies your morning routine.
- **Social Benefits** – Eating the same meals as their peers can help children feel more included, making lunchtime a more enjoyable and social part of the school day.

If you'd like more information or wish to request school lunches for your child, please contact the school office. Here is what the children say about school meals:

*"We have a huge variety of food, there are options for vegetarians and if you don't like certain foods there is always something that you will find that you like."*

*"If everyone ate packed lunches then there could be a lot of plastic. School dinners are kinder to the environment."*

*"On Friday I like that we have fish. It's good that we have different things on different days like Meat Free Monday, Roast Dinner Day and Fish Friday."*

*"They are healthy. I really like the colourful foods like vegetables and fruits for dessert."*

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## SCHOOL PHOTO REMINDER

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

A very special event recently took place at St Vincent's, our whole school photograph. This rare occasion happens only once every seven years. The entire St Vincent's family of pupils and staff came together to be part of the photograph, and it was a magical moment to see the whole school come together as our St Vincent family.

The children looked wonderful in their full school uniforms. We are delighted to have created this lasting memory, which will be treasured for years to come.

Details about how to purchase a copy of the photograph are below.

**Whole School Group** - <https://http.st/551503-14>

Please include your **child's full name** to assist with distribution at the school.

**Order within two weeks to avoid P&P charges (Delivery to school).**

For assistance, please call 01736 752411

Option 3 - Place an order (P&P applies)

Option 5 - Customer services

**Please be aware that orders placed after Tuesday 13th May will be subject to postage and packaging charges.**

Please see the summer term dates below:

### SUMMER 1

DAY	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Saturday	10 May	Y3 First Holy Communion: Miss Hutton's class 10am	St Vincent's Church
Sunday	11 May	First Holy Communion 10:30am	Holy Angels Church
Monday	12 May	KS2 SATS Week	-
Thursday	15 May	PTA Football Tournament	-



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Saturday	17 May	Y3 First Holy Communion: Mrs Needham's/Mrs Jennings' class: 10am	St Vincent's Church
Monday - Wednesday	19 - 21 May	Y5 Robinwood Residential	Dobroyd Castle Activity Centre
Thursday	22 May	Whole School International Mass 9:15am	Playground
Friday	23 May	Parents 'Stay and Share 8:30am: Y1 - 6	Y1-6 Classrooms
Friday	23 May	School closes for half term	-
HALF-TERM HOLIDAY			

## SUMMER 2

DAY	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday	09 June	School reopens	-
Monday	09 - 13 June	Year 1 Phonic check	-
Monday	09 - 13 June	Year 4 Multiplication tables check	-
Thursday	12 June	Whole School Mass of the Holy Spirit: 9:15am	Playground
Tuesday	17 June	Infant Sports Day 9:30 – 11:30am Year 1 and 2 Sports Day 1:30pm – 2:30pm Reception Sports Day	School Field
Wednesday	18 June	Junior Sports Day 9:30 – 11:30am Year 5 and 6 Sports Day 1:30pm – 3:15 pm Year 3 and 4 Sports Day	School Field
Thursday	19 June	First Holy Communion Celebration Mass 9:15am	Junior department hall
Friday	20 June	Parents 'Stay and Pray': 9:05am Reception classes	Infant department hall
Saturday	21 June	PTA Summer Family Fun Day	Junior department
Thursday	26 June	KS2 Class Assembly 9:05am: Y5 Mr Kerigan's class	Junior department hall
Thursday	26 June	New Reception Parents' Meeting	Infant department hall





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Thursday	03 July	New Reception Taster Session	Early Years
Thursday	03 July	Moving Up Day	All classes
Friday	04 July	Reception Disco 3.30pm-5.30pm	Infant department hall
Thursday	10 July	Reception Class Assembly 9:05am: Reception Miss Turnbull's class	Infant department hall
Monday	14 July	Y2 Dress Rehearsal 9:30am	Infant department hall
Monday	14 July	Y6 Dress Rehearsal 1:30pm	Junior department hall
Tuesday	15 July	Y2 Performance 9.30am	Junior department hall
Tuesday	15 July	Y6 Performance 1:30pm	Infant department hall
Wednesday	16 July	Y2 Performance 1.30pm	Infant department hall
Wednesday	16 July	Y6 Performance 6:30pm	Junior department hall
Thursday	17 July	Reception Class Assembly 9:05am: Reception Miss Howkins' class (is this taking place)	Infant department hall
Thursday	17 July	Y6 Performance 6:30pm	Junior department
Friday	18 July	Y6 Leavers' Disco	Holy Angels Parish Centre
Tuesday	22 July	Y6 Leavers' Mass 6:30pm	St Vincent's Church
Wednesday	23 July	Whole School End of Year Mass 9:15am	Field/playground
Thursday	24 July	<b>SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR END OF YEAR</b>	



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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 %
RKH	97.14	2AB	100	4CG/SK	98.39
RLT	95.52	2OW/CR	97.33	5ML	99.33
RLD	97.59	3DM	99.67	5LM	94.33
1AM	99.66	3LH	99.67	5JK	96.45
1MH	100	3CN/JJ	98.39	6NS	98.67
1CR	98	4CL/HB	99.33	6DH	96.90
2ES	98.33	4LD	98.33	6HC/EL	95.86
Overall percentage: 98.05%					

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, Mrs Sutton (junior deputy, and I are also available to work in partnership with you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harrop

Headteacher

