



St. Vincent's Catholic Primary Newsletter

Growing in faith: loving and learning together with Jesus

Message from Mrs Waldram

Here we are in the last half-term of the year – still with lots of interesting things to learn, but hopefully with plenty of fun thrown in too!

For some staff, it is also their last half-term with the school. As you know, I'll be retiring but we'll also be saying a fond farewell to Miss Azzopardi, who is starting a Deputy Headship at another school in September, and to Mrs Wright, who is moving on after her incredibly long service with the school. Miss Peacham is also leaving at the end of this week to start a new job within her church. All of these staff will be sorely missed, but we wish them every happiness in their new ventures.

Mrs Dowling has been doing a great job of preparing for Headship in September. Joining her as Deputy Head across both schools will be Mrs Jo Healy, who some of you might remember from when she worked at St Vincent's previously. I will give a full list of new starters and their classes in the July newsletter. As you can see, this is a period of change for both schools, and I thank you all for your patience as we finalise and communicate our plans.

God bless,

Mrs Waldram

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Focus virtue of the half-term: Hopeful

*'Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long.'*

*Psalm 25 v 5*

### Attendance

**The class with the best percentage attendance last half-term was Year 5 with 96.87%.**

Well done, Year 5! You have made great efforts to be in school every day to learn.

Please remember how important it is that your child attends school, on time, every day. If you know your child will be absent, please inform the school office before the start of the school day. Be ready to provide evidence for absences as our attendance staff need to detail this on your child's record.

### PTA

The PTA have got some great events planned for June so keep your eyes open for further details! The first is the Colour Run, taking place straight after Sports Day – see ClassDojo for details.

## Sporting events

Last half-term we finished off Pentecost (1) with a great alternative Sports Day. The children were able to try out many different sports events and realised new skills which could be developed further!

We have another Sports Day coming up on 7<sup>th</sup> June to which parents are invited. Please come along for 1.15pm and cheer the children on! Remember to bring a blanket or chair with you so you can sit comfortable for the afternoon. This is our more competitive Sports Day where the children will compete in individual races and for their Saints Team as well. We hope to see you there!

## Parking/Gates

The new gate at St. Vincent's is installed and we are still getting used to how it works... thanks for your patience! You are urged to be considerate when you park in the surrounding area. We have had numerous complaints about parents being rude to residents, or blocking their cars in.

## School Trips

It has been great to see so many classes going on school trips this term. Please make sure you check on Dojo events for up-to-date information and to ensure you have completed consent forms for your children. Any payments for trips can be made through ParentMail. If you go to Payments and Shop, they should be available for you there. As ever, if you have any queries, please speak to the school office.

## School dinners

Please can we remind you that school dinners need to be paid for **in advance** of being ordered. The kitchen will be able to supply one lunch without credit but otherwise, if your account is in debt, you will need to send your child into school with a packed lunch.

Please ensure that your account is not in any debt for the school holidays. Parents may be phoned to ask them to bring in a packed lunch if the credit on the account does not cover the dinners for the last week of term.

The kitchen manager is not allowed to give dinners without credit and the office staff are having to spend too much time chasing parents to pay. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

## Holiday during term-time

Please remember that holidays during term-time should not be taken. Children need to be in school every school day unless they are particularly unwell or have an appointment which cannot be rescheduled. Central Bedfordshire Attendance Officers keep a close check on schools and require school to inform them when parents have taken children out of school for holidays. Please use the link below to see their guidance:

[https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/97/school\\_administration/538/access\\_and\\_inclusion\\_for\\_schools/2](https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/97/school_administration/538/access_and_inclusion_for_schools/2)

If you are planning holidays, do remember that we will have a **2-week** half-term break in October.

# St Vincent's School Calendar 2023-24

(All dates are subject to change)

| Date                                                                                                                                                     | Event                                                       | Notes                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| PENTECOST HALF-TERM HOLIDAY                                                                                                                              |                                                             |                                                  |
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun 8:45 am                                                                                                                       | Start of 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of Pentecost Term             |                                                  |
| w/b 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                                                            | Year 4 Multiplication practice and screening weeks          |                                                  |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                                                                              | Sports Day (afternoon) Rec-Y6<br>Followed by PTA Colour Run | Parents welcome from 1.15pm.<br>See ClassDojo    |
| w/b 10 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                                                                                | Phonics screening                                           | KS1                                              |
| Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                                                                             | K'Nex Challenge event                                       | Year 5 am and Y6 pm                              |
| Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                                                                            | Yrs 1-6 visits to HR Library                                |                                                  |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                                                                             | PTA Father's Day Stall                                      |                                                  |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June                                                                                                                             | PTA Non-uniform day                                         | See ClassDojo                                    |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                                                                          | Year 2 & 3 trip to ZSL Whipsnade                            |                                                  |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                                                                             | PTA Summer Fair                                             |                                                  |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July                                                                                                                             | Reception Stay and Play                                     | 9.15pm                                           |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July                                                                                                                             | Transition afternoon – meet your new teacher!               | Years 1 - 5                                      |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July                                                                                               | Y6 transition days for Queensbury and Manshead students     |                                                  |
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                            | Y6 transition day for Cardinal Newman students              |                                                  |
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                            | Nursery Stay and Play                                       | 2.15pm                                           |
| Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                            | Keech Short Tail Trail launch                               | Look for our sculpture in Luton!                 |
| w/b 8 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                                 | Year 6 Activity Week                                        | See letter for details                           |
| Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                             | Y6 transition days for Houstone students                    |                                                  |
| Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                          | French Day                                                  | Cross-curricular French lessons and themed lunch |
| Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                           | Y6 transition day for JFK students                          |                                                  |
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                             | Year 5 and 6 Production                                     |                                                  |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                            | Year 5 and 6 Production                                     |                                                  |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                            | Picnic lunch                                                |                                                  |
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                          | Leavers Mass                                                | 10am at St Mary's Catholic Church                |
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                                                                           | Discos and leavers' party                                   |                                                  |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July <b>2 pm</b>                                                                                                                 | End of Pentecost Term and School Year                       | <b>No Late Owls club</b>                         |
| SUMMER HOLIDAY                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |                                                  |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September                                                                                                                         | Training day                                                |                                                  |
| Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September                                                                                                                        | Advent term starts                                          |                                                  |
| TERM DATES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE: <a href="https://www.stvincentshr.org/our-school/news/">HTTPS://WWW.STVINCENTSHR.ORG/OUR-SCHOOL/NEWS/</a> |                                                             |                                                  |