



St. Vincent's Catholic Primary Newsletter

Growing in faith: loving and learning together with Jesus

Message from Mrs Waldram

This has been a hugely busy half-term with formal assessments in every class, trips galore, sports days, special assemblies, Masses, transition visits to new classes or schools, Year 6 activity week, sleepover and spectacular performances, end of year reports and SATs results, as well as a whole host of wonderful PTA events. The children's and staff's energy has been flagging at times, (especially after a long walk around the zoo), but we are finally in sight of the end of term and the end of another year at St Vincent's. We are hopefully keeping a bit of energy in reserve for the discos on Thursday, and for our final Celebration assembly on Friday morning.

It has been a very special and poignant half-term for me personally, counting down the days to my retirement – the last week has gone very quickly! My retirement Mass was a lovely celebration and will be a treasured memory; thank you so much to those who came along to St Mary's for this, and especially those who sang in the choir.

It has been an honour to be part of the leadership team of St Vincent's for the past three years. It really is a wonderful school, with delightful children and supportive parents. Thank you for all of the kind wishes that I have received for my retirement. I would particularly welcome your prayers for my upcoming month in Zambia, where I will be volunteering as a Teaching Assistant. I am really looking forward to it, but also quite nervous!

I pray that God will continue to bless the whole school community, and that you will thrive under the leadership of Mrs Dowling and her team.

God bless,

Mrs Waldram

Some goodbyes...

This term we say a fond farewell to:

- ♥ **Miss Adrienne Azzopardi**, who is taking up a new Deputy Head role at another school. The place just won't be the same without you!
- ♥ **Mrs Catherine Wright**, who will be greatly missed. I believe that she taught many of the parents, as well as their children!
- ♥ **Miss Rachel Kendrick**, who is moving out of the area and joining a new school. She is a firm favourite with the children and is much loved.
- ♥ **Miss Nikki Delaney**, who is moving on to another job out of school.

We are thankful for the teaching and support you have all given our children over the years. We wish you all the best in your new roles, and that you take with you many good memories.

- ♥ **Our Year 6 children**, who are moving on to pastures new.

We are so proud of the way you have acted as role-models for the younger children this year. *'May the Lord bless you and keep you'* as you join your new schools. Do come back to visit us soon!

St Vincent's PTA

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS to Viki and the PTA team for putting together such a fantastic schedule events in your first year of office. You have brought so much joy and excitement to the children and their families, as well as raising money to use for their benefit. Long may it continue!

Please look out for updates on PTA news in September, as well as the PTA AGM.

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.

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.

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

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

Early Birds Late Owls Club

Please note that from September 2024, Breakfast and Afterschool Club charges will increase to £4.50 per hour.

St Vincent's School Calendar 2023-24

(All dates are subject to change)

Thursday 18 th July 2024	End of Year Discos	Reception & Y1, 2:30 – 3:20 pm Y2 & Y3, 3:30 – 4:20 pm Y4 & Y5, 4:30 – 5:20 pm
Thursday 18 th July 2024	Year 6 Leavers' Party	6:00 – 7:30 pm
Friday 19 th July 9:00 am	Final Celebration Assembly	All welcome
Friday 19 th July 2:00 pm	End of Pentecost Term and School Year	No After-school club.
SUMMER HOLIDAY		
Monday 2 nd September	Training day	STAFF ONLY – NO PUPILS
Tuesday 3 rd September	Advent term starts	
Friday 18 th October	End of 1 st half of Advent term	
ADVENT HALF-TERM – 2 WEEKS		
TERM DATES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE: HTTPS://WWW.STVINCENTSHR.ORG/OUR-SCHOOL/NEWS/		