



# St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

## OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and carers,

The first month of the academic year has been positive and productive. Our new pupils have settled in well and all pupils are working hard whilst being so enthusiastic about their learning. They are a pleasure to teach!

The final week of September was very special to our school. 27<sup>th</sup> September is the feast day of St. Vincent De Paul and we celebrated by coming together as a whole school for our first Mass since before the pandemic. It was very emotional and beautiful. Please do remember our school family in your prayers, especially those who may be poorly at this time.

It has also brought us great pleasure to welcome parents back into the school. We have missed seeing you in the building after so many years of such close contact and interaction.

We are hopeful that we can build on this by resuming the much celebrated SVPA Disco-a fun event for parent and pupils to enjoy together. After such a long time, this first disco will be for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils with their parents and carers only but we will plan other fun activities for the Foundation Stage families.

One of the reasons we are willing and able to start returning to more whole school events, is the tremendous support we have had from parents to work in partnership with the school to follow the government covid guidance. We appreciate the changes can be difficult to comprehend so have tried to share simple summaries of the key advice.

All important information, advice and updates will be posted on the school website [www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk](http://www.stvincentsprimary.org.uk) We love our website and really enjoy reading your comments and hearing your feedback so please do continue to post responses. We are still working on modernising the appearance and look forward to sharing the new look with you soon.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kindest regards, Miss Coleman, Headteacher

### Young Minds – World Mental Health Day

On Friday 8th October St Vincent's will be saying #HelloYellow to show young people they're not alone with their mental health.

It's normal to have ups and downs – and this year might have felt a little more down than up. We've all had different worries and uncertainty about the future. **But it's the little things that have got us through it** – walks in our local community, spending time with family, learning a new skill. Things can get better. Getting involved in #HelloYellow for World Mental Health Day is a little thing we can do to make a BIG difference to young people's mental health.

We are asking all children to wear something yellow (anything from an accessory or an entire outfit) and donate at least £1 to YoungMinds on Friday 8th October.

**Because a little yellow goes a long way.**



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### ENTERPRISE WEEK 2021

Each year we celebrate Enterprise Week at school during the final week of the half term. This week aims to inspire the children and develop their understanding of skills required in business. Within this week, they will experience designing a product as well as branding and marketing it to the rest of the school. It encompasses all of our school learning powers of resilience, reciprocity, resourcefulness and reflectiveness.

This year, we are excited to involve parents and carers in the week, giving children the opportunity to learn about a variety of different careers and jobs, so we can inspire children and give them the tools to find what they are passionate about. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who have agreed participate in this week and share with children what they do and the skills and qualifications they needed. We are excited to share this week with our St Vincent's family.

At the Enterprise Week Launch, each class will be given a loan of £25 to produce a product to be sold. Each class will have to create a name, logo to represent their company and an advert (that will be filmed) for everyone to watch to try and persuade children to buy their products!

Once all classes have watched the adverts, the children will decide what they would like to order and complete online order forms during their lessons. After all the order forms have been completed, it will be time to create the orders! On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, all the orders will be ready and the children will collect their products.

All products will be £1 and the children may bring in a maximum of £2 to spend.

Through Enterprise Week, we aim:

- To awaken the creative potential of children, providing them with opportunities to generate ideas and make them happen.
- To improve children's using and applying mathematics skills through problem solving in an enjoyable, real-life and meaningful context.
- To promote financial management and enterprise skills for life, such as risk-taking, making financial decisions, managing a budget, being resourceful and taking the initiative.
- To provide children with the opportunity to use their God-given talents and work as part of a team, respecting the contribution that each person has to make.
- To continue to build our learning powers, focusing on reciprocity as we work as a team, resilience as we will not give up even if we face challenge, resourcefulness as we decide how to make out product and finally reflectiveness when we evaluate our products and the processes at the end of the week.

This is a fun week to end the first half term with lots of cross curricular learning opportunities and some aspirational assemblies with our brilliant parents and carers!

### KEY DATES

Some key dates for the half term ahead are below but this list is not definitive-new trips/events may be arranged after the newsletter has been published and all dates are subject to change so please check the website calendar for the most up to date information. Arrangements for attending assembly performances will be confirmed nearer the time. If we cannot have a live audience the assembly will be filmed and posted on the school website.

#### OCTOBER

- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October- 9:30-10:00 Year 3 Assembly
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 9:15 SVPA Coffee Morning
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October Census Day Lunch
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October-World Mental Health Day/ Young Minds Hello Yellow event
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 8:30 Disco Guest List Sales, school office
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October- 9:30-10:00 Year 1 Assembly
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup>-Friday- 22<sup>nd</sup> October Enterprise Week
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 18:00 SVPA Disco for KS1 and KS2
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup>-Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October HALF TERM!
- Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October Closing date for secondary transfer applications



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### PUPIL REPRESENTATIVES

Our pupils are wonderful ambassadors for our school and in this newsletter we thank all the children who have taken on additional responsibilities this year by joining one of our pupil groups. Well done for taking up this challenge and good luck in your new roles.

### PUPIL CHAPLAINCY TEAM

Our Pupil Chaplains support the religious life of the school. Thank you to Holly, Aisha, Alfred, William, Julia, Mayowa, Holly, Orla, Malgosia, Karolina, Chloe H, Ophelia, Patrick, Emi, Grace-Anne, Gabriella, Louis, Celestine, Sebastian, Billie, Chloe K and Eugenia for taking on this important responsibility.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council elections took place at the beginning of this term and congratulations are due to the newly elected representatives for this year 2020/2021.

Year 1: Indigo & Caspian

Year 2: Paolo & Luca

Year 3: Camila & Sebastian

Year 4: Catherine & Finley

Year 5: Chloe KT & Samuel

Year 6: Emilie, Clare, Pablo & Ajay

### GREEN TEAM

Thank you to our Green Team members who have chosen to take on this position of responsibility and support the sustainability of our school.

Year 1: Hermine & Leopold

Year 2: Juliana & Ryan

Year 3: Gabriella & Daniela

Year 4: Romey & Adrien

Year 5: Clemence & Matthias

Year 6: Clara, Julia G & Louis

### SPORTS AMBASSADORS

At St. Vincent's we have a dedicated team of Sports Ambassadors. This enthusiastic team of pupils lead games and activities each day during lunchtime. The pupils promote the positive values of sport whilst aiming to increase participation opportunities and healthy lifestyles for everyone. Thank you to Karter, Stella, Albert, Martin and Amarissa.



### SVPA UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who has supported the St. Vincent's Parents Association. It was wonderful to welcome so many people to our first meeting and thank you to everyone who volunteered to be a Class Representative. Thank you especially to our brilliant Co-Chairs, Julie and Shana who have committed to another year, and thank you to Ewa Hais, mother of Chloe Y5 and Caspian Y1, who has joined as another Co-Chair. Please come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 9:05 in the school hall.

We are very excited to announce that, unless there is a change to the local situation and guidance, the SVPA Disco is back! Guest List places will be sold on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 8:30am - 9:15am at the school office and the disco will be on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October. We are expecting a high demand so places will be limited to Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils and their parents / carers only. Get out your dancing shoes!!



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### MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Children, young people and their families can get free help, advice and urgent mental health support from 24/7 crisis telephone lines available in every London borough. Every NHS mental health trust in London has put these in place, so children, young people and their families can get help quickly when they need it. Professionals are also able to access these crisis lines if they are concerned about or would like advice about a child, young person or family. The crisis lines are supported by trained mental health practitioners, who can offer advice and signpost other sources of support as needed.

For more information please visit the school website. You can also find mental health support for young people on the council's [Family Information Service website](https://familyinformation.service.nhs.uk/).

[https://fisd.westminster.gov.uk/kb5/westminster/fis/advice.page?id=C\\_mum2lsy98](https://fisd.westminster.gov.uk/kb5/westminster/fis/advice.page?id=C_mum2lsy98)

### MAKE IT HAPPEN

Make it Happen is a group of parent carer volunteers working together to support Westminster parents and carers of children and adults with special educational needs and/or a disability. Becoming a member is easy, simply complete the online contact form at [www.wppg.org.uk](http://www.wppg.org.uk) and you will have access to peer support as well as high quality training delivered by specialists.



### ONLINE SAFETY

Thank you to all parents and school staff for signing our school AUP to ensure that everyone knows how to behave online. All children have discussed their age appropriate AUPs with their classteacher and understand how to behave and stay safe online at school. Do you have a Digital Family Agreement for your family devices at home? It can prompt a great discussion about what children use the internet for and how to ensure that every stays safe. Click here to see an example one by LGfL:

<https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/digital-family-agreement> Our online safety school website page is continually kept up to date with the latest news and resources so please visit it for more information. If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to someone at school and we can support you.



### STAFFING UPDATE

As you may be aware, Mrs Knowler is currently absent from school with a broken leg and Mrs Cooper has a broken wrist. We miss them both and are praying for them that they both recover well.

Thank you to our school family for your support and understanding whilst we are short staffed.



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