IMPORTANT DATES IN FEBRUARY 2020

3rd Year 4 visiting the Steve McQueen Year 3 Exhibition at the Tate
4th 9:15 Mathematics Open Morning—all welcome
5th Perform Drama workshops for EYFS and KS1
6th Year 3 visiting the October Gallery
6th Year 5 visiting the British Museum
7th a.m. Year 6 attending ‘Animals’ Science workshop at Queen’s
7th 10:35 Reception Assembly—all welcome
10th-14th World Week
11th Safer Internet Day
12th-13th Whole school art workshops—thank you to the SVPA
12th 9:00 SVPA Meeting—all welcome
12th Zoom Rail workshops for Years 3 and 4
13th Road Safety Show for Years 5 and 6
14th 9:30 Cultural Assembly—all welcome
17th-21st Half Term
25th 15:15 SVPA Pancake Sale, school hall
26th 9:00 SVPA Meeting—all welcome
26th Launch of Catholic Children’s Society Lenten Appeal
26th 14:00 Ash Wednesday Service, St. James’s Church—all welcome
27th Swimming Gala-selected team
28th 10:35 Year 3 Assembly—all welcome

IMPORTANT DATES IN MARCH 2020

2nd Secondary Transfer Outcomes Day—good luck Year 6
3rd Nursery visiting the London Aquarium
3rd & 4th All Paper workshops for pupils
4th Coffee Morning—All About Paper workshop—all welcome
4th WE Day UK—Yrs 5/6 Green Team & School Council attending celebration at Wembley Arena
World Book Day—children to dress up as books characters please
5th 15:15 Book Fair, school hall
6th 10:35 Year 4 Assembly—all welcome
9th-13th Science Week
10th STEM workshop for Year 2
11th 9:00 SVPA Meeting—all welcome
11th Year 5 attending Scrapheap Challenge at St. George’s
11th Parents Evening
12th Parents Evening
13th Year 3 visiting Museum of London-Ancient Britain
13th 10:35 Nursery Assembly—all welcome
16th Class Photographs
19th Year 4 visiting Queen’s College for Science workshop ‘States of Matter’
20th 9:15 Year 5 End of Project celebration
20th 10:35 Year 1 Assembly—all welcome
24th Year 4 visiting St. Clement Danes’s School for Shakespeare story telling session
25th 9:00 SVPA Meeting—all welcome
25th Four Year 5 pupils participating in Maths Challenge at Christ’s Hospital
25th 14:00 Year 1 End of Project Celebration
25th 14:00 Year 6 End of Project Celebration
27th 10:35 Year 5 Assembly—all welcome
27th 15:15 SVPA Easter Fair
31st Final Swimming session for Year 4

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS,

It has been a great start to 2020 and I am proud of the achievements of our pupils and teachers, who have been working incredibly hard this term. Thank you for your continued support of the school. I really think we are a St. Vincent’s family who work together to provide an excellent education for our children, rooted in our Catholic values.

On Friday we held our annual International Evening (the timing to coincide with Brexit was unintentional but poignant!), which once again was so popular that it was a sold out event. The evening presented a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate the cultural diversity of our community and to find out about the different traditions of the many home countries from which we originate. Thank you to everyone for your support by contributing food or hamper items, attending the event and buying raffle tickets. As well as being a lovely social event, this event helps with our fundraising.

I am sorry I am still unable to provide you with an update about the Moxon Street Car Park. The works should be starting soon and I will confirm the start date as soon as I know. I meet regularly with the different contractors form all the neighbouring projects to try and minimize the disruption to the school but please let me know if you have any concerns.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,
M. Coleman

LENT 2020

On Ash Wednesday the whole school will receive ashes at St. James’s Church. Parents and carers are welcome to join us for this service at which Father Christopher will also bless our Lenten promises.

Once again during Lent we will be supporting the Catholic Children’s Society. The theme of the 2020 Lenten Appeal is ‘Light Your Lenten Path’, inspired by the Year of the Word. The Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales has dedicated 2020 as a year of focus on the Bible and ‘The God Who Speaks’. The special 2020 Lenten Appeal ‘Light Your Lenten Path’ follows the three themes of celebrating, living and sharing, encouraging pupils to explore Bible passages and reflect on how God’s word can guide their day-to-day lives.

Following a special assembly led by the Catholic Children’s’ Society to explain the importance of their work, each pupil will be given a collection box and a ‘Light Your Lenten Path’ activity sheet. During Lent we will try to become even closer to God with additional prayer sessions and the Sacrament of Reconciliation for Years 4, 5 and 6.

To further strengthen home, school, Parish links, we would like to once again involve parents to participate in family prayer times using our Lent Prayer Boxes. As a family, use the prayer box and take time to stop and think about how special the Last Supper was and the self-giving of Jesus.

The weeks ahead are going to be very reflective and prayerful and we will try to shine our light at all times.

Yours sincerely,
M. Coleman

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**Mathematics Open Morning Tuesday 4th February 2020**

On Tuesday 4th February we will be holding an Mathematics Open Morning to which all parents are warmly invited. The morning will begin with a presentation by the Mathematics Leader, Miss Gorick, followed by the opportunity to see Maths being taught in every class across the school. The focus of the morning is calculation, an area parents have asked for support with. We do hope you will be able to join us.

**Safer Internet Day 2020: Together for a Better Internet**

At St. Vincent’s we are always trying to promote safe use of the internet. Safer Internet Day 2020 will be celebrated in the UK on Tuesday 11th February, focusing on the theme of ‘Together for a better internet’. The aim of Safer Internet Day is to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. Safer Internet Day will focus on how consent works in an online context and will ask young people to explore how they ask, give, and receive consent online. This could be in their friendships or relationships, how they take and share images and videos or how they manage their privacy and data.

The campaign highlights positive uses of technology and explores the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. Please talk to your child about their understanding of this topic and about the safe and responsible use of technology. Try to inspire young people to create a better internet for the future. Remember to look at the school website, Online Safety page for further useful links and resources www.stvincentprimary.org.uk/school-info/onlinesafety/

**World Week Cultural Assembly**

Friday 14th February 2020

On Friday 14th February, as the culmination of our World Week celebrations, we will be celebrating the rich diversity of languages, countries and cultures of all of the children at St Vincent’s. On this day, all children are invited to come to school dressed to reflect their heritage country/ies. This could be national dress or the colours of their chosen flag. We will be having a special assembly at 9.30am which parents and carers are welcome to watch. This will be an opportunity for children share an aspect of their language, country or culture with the rest of the school. For example, this could be a song in their home language or a dance from their country or culture.

**World Book Day Thursday 5th March 2020**

This year World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March 2020. We always want to encourage a joy of reading so on this day we will be asking all the children to come to school dressed as a book character. This is advance notice so you have time to prepare a costume.

Have fun being creative and reading lots of books for inspiration!

**Message from the Pupil Chaplaincy Team**

We have been enjoying our daily meditations, leading prayers and assemblies as well as helping with school masses. We can be seen in the courtyard and roof leading activities which all children are welcome to join in. We are currently leading activities at lunch break. Last term, we accomplished many things such as praying the Rosary with all classes for the month of October, leading prayers in assemblies and helping children around the school.

We hope this new year will encourage us all to become more committed and active in this role. We look forward to all the exciting things the term holds for us!

**Message from the Green Team**

The start of the year has been busy for us. We took part in an assembly and presented to the SVPA during a coffee morning, both regarding the new dustbins at lunchtime. We thank the SVPA very much for funding the necessary bin bags. We are not fond of waste but it is good to know that now it will be re-cycled.

This term our main aims are a litter pick, Green Police Audit and writing emails to local business asking for their opinions on all things environmental.

**Message from the Rights Respecting Sports Ambassadors**

So far, we have had a busy term as we have welcomed Lavinia, Eliza, Laetitia and Anahi to our team so now there are twelve Rights Respecting Sports Ambassadors. Our new Rights Respecting Sports Ambassadors have completed their training so are now running their own activities including; Cheerleading, Athletics, Running games and Circle games.

Recently, St. Vincent’s has taken part in two Athletics competitions and the Sports Ambassadors helped to prepare the athletes at lunchtime - we reminded them about good sportsmanship and helped them to practice their events.

We have also been working hard with Harry, from Lord’s Cricket Ground, on our leadership skills. He has taught us about the importance of explaining games clearly in order to make sure that all children understand the game. He gave us some great tips!

We look forward to seeing what the next few months have in store!

**Message from the School Council**

We would like to tell you about our meetings, particularly the amazing event of this month: meeting Councillor Karen Scarborough, who is also one of our governors. She told us all about her hard work to promote the facilities in the Marylebone community. We found out about her work with homeless people, youth programmes and zebra crossings. We all discussed the idea of promoting pupils’ voice around the school and the importance of helping children on the friendship bench. The school council is very happy to announce that very soon we are going to meet with the newly elected MP Westminster Nickie Aiken – a fantastic opportunity.