St Vincent's Catholic Primary School
Newsletter
St Vincent's Catholic Primary School, 1 Pierrepoint Road, Acton, W3 9JR
Tel: 020 8992 6625

E-mail admin@stvps.co.uk Website https://www.st-vincents.ealing.sch.uk/

Autumn 2026 issue 9 **Friday 6th November 2026**

Dates for your Diary

November	
Saturday 7th November	- Open Day for prospective parents 2-4pm
Monday 9th November	- Drama 4 All Years 1-3
Tuesday 10th November	- Year 6 trip to RAF Hendon - Parent Workshop (MHST) Behaviour & Emotional Regulation 9am - Open Day for prospective parents 9.30-11am
Wednesday 11th November	- Year 1 trip to Gunnersbury Park Museum
Thursday 12th November	- Year 2 trip to Gunnersbury Park Museum
Friday 13th November	- Year 3 Remembrance Assembly 9am - Flu Immunisations – Reception to Year 6 - PTA Coffee Morning – offsite
w/c Monday 16th November	*Anti-bullying week "Break the Silence"* *Road Safety Week*
Tuesday 17th November	- Open Day for prospective parents 9.30-11am
Thursday 19th November	- Year 4 Parents' Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) Information Meeting 3.30pm
Friday 20th November	- Year 1 Assembly 9am
Wednesday 25th November	- Heights and Weights – Year 6 and Reception tbc
Saturday 28th November	- PTA Christmas Fair 1-4pm (with KS2 Choir Performance)
Monday 30th November	- Year 5 Trip to RAF Hendon
December	
Tuesday 1st December	- Sacrament of Reconciliation Years 4-6
Wednesday 2nd December	- Forgiveness Assembly Years 1-3
Thursday 3rd December	- KS2 Choir Competition at Westfield 1pm
Friday 4th December	- Reception Nativity 9am - Advent Mass – whole school 2pm
w/c Monday 7th December	*- PTA Gift Shop* *- Final week of autumn term school run activity clubs and music tuition*
Tuesday 8th December	- Year 2 Nativity 9am
Wednesday 9th December	- Year 5 visit to Japanese School - KS2 Choir singing for the Michael Flanders Christmas Party 1pm
Thursday 10th December	- Rocksteady Concert 9am – Thursday groups - Carol Concert at OLOL 7pm
Friday 11th December	- Rocksteady Concert 9am – Friday groups - Last Day of Clubs - PTA Parent Social - Offsite
Tuesday 15th December	- Year 4 Nativity 9am
Wednesday 16th December	- Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day
Thursday 17th December	- Christmas Pantomime – whole school 9.50am - Last Day of Term – **School closes at 1.10pm / No After School Club**

Celebration Station!



Week of 2nd November 2026

Awards:

Rainbow

Vision – Anam
Values – Sofia
Mission – Alba

Sunshine

Vision – Oscar
Values – Sofia
Mission – Annie

Year 1R

Vision – Maria
Values – Elton
Mission – Netania

Year 1W

Vision – Kit
Values – Emilia
Mission – Ania

Year 2M

Vision – Quinn
Values – Berno
Mission – Alexandra

Year 2O

Vision – to be awarded next week
Values – to be awarded next week
Mission – to be awarded next week

Year 3Sa

Vision – Oscar
Values – Firenze
Mission – William

Year 3So

Vision – Teddy
Values – Martina
Mission – Tymira

Year 4C

Vision – Larin
Values – Eva
Mission – Lena

Year 4T

Vision – Emma
Values – Cornelia
Mission – Warsan

Year 5K

Vision – Yoana
Values – Taissa
Mission – Benicio

Year 5M

Vision – Wyatt
Values – Abigail
Mission – Whole Class

Year 6D

Vision – Isla
Values – Chiara
Mission – Manessa

Year 6O

Vision – Tosia
Values – Lara
Mission – Theo

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and the children all managed to have a good rest over half – term, and are raring to go in what is always a beautifully busy half term!

Our Year 5 assembly this morning was a truly special way to begin the half term. Through story and song, the children told us, in the most heartfelt and poignant way, their learning about the atrocities of World War 1. They reminded us all that love and peace must always be at the heart of our everyday lives.





This is a particularly poignant half-term with its themes of All Saints, All Souls, Remembrance and Advent. We are reminded about how God calls us all to be saints and that even the saints didn't behave themselves ALL the time! It is important to keep reminding ourselves of our uniqueness, made in God's image and likeness. This story is a lovely reminder of this:

The Jealous Parrot – A Story About Being Yourself

Peter Parrot came home upset and confused.
"What's wrong?" his mother asked.
"I hate my stupid beak!" Peter blurted.
"Why do you hate your beak? I think it's beautiful," his mother said reassuringly.
"All of the other birds have much cooler beaks. Sammy Spoonbill, Pammy Pelican, Harry Hawk, Freddy Finch, all of them!"
Peter's mother sat silently for a moment. "He may be right," she thought to herself, they do have very cool beaks.
"You should go and see Major Macaw, he'll know what to do. He's the wisest of the parrots and lives in the tallest tree in the forest. Yes, he'll know what to do," responded Peter's mother.
So Peter Parrot flew to the tallest tree in the forest and found Major Macaw.
"Excuse me Major, I have a problem," said Peter.
"Oh dear, what can it be?" asked the venerable macaw.
"I have a stupid beak. Why can't I have a cool beak like Sammy Spoonbill, Pammy Pelican, Harry Hawk or Freddy Finch?"
"You're right." said the macaw, "They do have cool beaks. Tell me Peter, do you like eating worms and crustaceans?"
"Yuck! That would be disgusting!" responded Peter.
"Well, that's what the spoonbill's beak is designed for. What about fish?"
"I couldn't think of anything worse," said Peter.
"So, the pelican's beak wouldn't work either."
"What about rabbits and mice?"
"Eww."
"OK, so maybe you shouldn't aspire to have a hawk's beak. Small seeds?"
"They're not so bad, but my favourite is Brazil nuts." exclaimed Peter, salivating at the thought.
"That's lucky, I think I have a few here. Would you like one?" asked Major.
Peter's eyes lit up. "Yes, please."
"Tell me Peter, if you had the beak of a spoonbill, pelican, hawk or finch, do you think that you could eat that Brazil nut?"
"I guess not," said Peter with his mouth full.
"You see, young parrot, you have been designed a certain way, with certain skills, attributes and tastes. **Don't waste your life being envious of the capacities of others, just make sure that you know what you're good at and why you're here.**"
Peter nodded his head in understanding and flew back home much more content.

We are all designed for a specific purpose.
Let's not worry about the skills and attributes of others, they have their own purpose that probably won't suit you.
You have the ability to do remarkable things just as you are.
Work on that purpose.
Get better at those skills.
Change the world!

Headlines, Notes and Reminders …

- **Ready to Welcome**. We are looking forward to an exceptionally busy **Open Morning** tomorrow, followed by others over the next few weeks. My grateful thanks to the Year 5 and 6 children who are coming to support these events. Your children are our best ambassadors! Keep telling people about our outstanding school.

- **Celebration**. Happy Diwali to anyone celebrating in our school community this weekend.

On Remembrance Sunday, we pray:

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.



Have a peaceful weekend.
God bless,

Mrs McCarthy
Executive Headteacher

ATTENDANCE

Please see the table below for the class with the highest attendance for the week of 6th November 2026.

Congratulations to 5M for having the highest attendance (99.7%) this week

Group	% Attendance
5M	99.7%
4T	99.3%
5K	98.9%
6O	98.7%
1R	98.7%
3So	98.0%
6D	97.7%
3Sa	96.7%
4C	96.7%
1W	96.3%
2M	96.0%
2O	94.3%

School Notices

Flu Vaccinations

Thank you to everyone who has completed their registration for flu vaccinations taking place on Friday 13th November. There is still time to complete this form which was sent on the original email from the NHS.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

As we enter the month of November, our St Vincent's Catholic Life ambassadors will begin our annual collection for the Royal British Legion. Poppies - along with a range of other merchandise - will be available to purchase for children in the following locations across the school during the given time:

KS2 Playground - 12:30pm until 1:00pm

Collections will begin on **Monday 9th November** and will run until **Thursday 12th November.** A reminder that the Poppies themselves are available for a donation of your choosing, whilst a number of the other items will be on sale for under £3, so please ensure you send your child into school with an appropriate amount of money.

As always, we thank you in advance for your support for this wonderful cause.

PTA NOTICES



For the third year we will be running the **Coaches & School Trips Initiative** - last year, your generosity managed to raise an additional **£3,370.00** which meant we could help fund School trips and workshops for every class. We think this proves that parents want their children to go on more trips so let's make it happen! School trips are essential for enhanced subject learning & improving their overall school experience! **Annually, the PTA spends around £10,000 on the initiative.**

This year on top of all the other trips the Teachers are planning the PTA are looking to fund a **Theatre & Musical based trip for at least one year group!!!** We are hoping we could make this an annual tradition - possibly for one year group every year - more details will follow when we have worked out the financials but the *money this fund raises will be essential to making this happen!!*

TARGET TO RAISE - £5,000 - Click here to DONATE!

Thank you in advance for your generosity,

St Vincent's PTA







<u>Please vote for St Vincent's to win up to £1500! - Voting is still OPEN!</u>

Tesco Fruit and Veg Grants Programme – please vote by grabbing a blue coin and pop it in the St Vincent's box at the following stores.

- Hoover Superstore UB6 8DW
- Greenford Oldfield Express Express UB6 8PX
- Northolt Express UB5 5AU
- Greenford Lady Margaret Road Express UB1 2QQ
- Southall King St Express UB2 4DB



Voting closes end of November. Please click **here** to read all about what we could win!. Thank you for your help!

Mrs Hatfield & St V's PTA

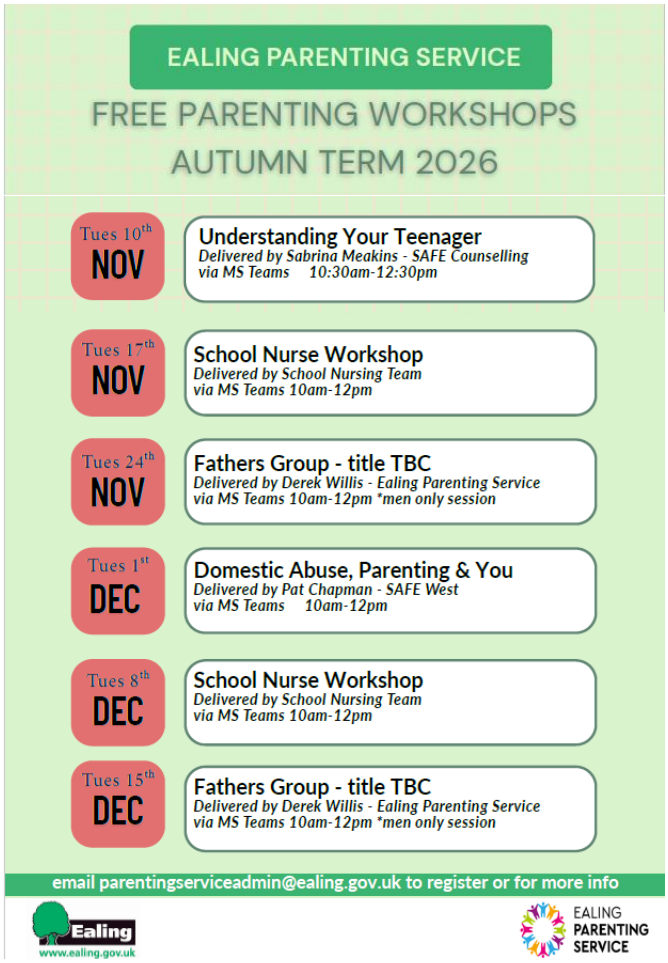
Other Notices

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Every mental health trust in London has put in place a 24/7 crisis line for people of all ages - children, young people and adults.

The below lines, which are free to call, can provide advice to those in a crisis. These crisis lines are supported by trained mental health advisors 365 days a year.





Absence Reporting:

A polite reminder that if your child is unwell or absent due to any other reason, please communicate this clearly to the school office before 9am on each morning of the absence remembering to state your child's name and class. **If an absence is not reported, it will be marked as unauthorised. P**lease be specific when reporting your child's absence. Do not use the phrase "unwell" as it makes it difficult to monitor illness trends.

Vomiting or diarrhoea - children need to stay at home for 48 hours. Please see link below
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/diarrhoea-and-vomiting/

PE Days

Please ensure your child arrives in full PE Kit on their PE Days Please see details of uniform here.

PE Days:

Tuesday:	Reception & Year 2
Wednesday:	Year 4 and Year 1
Thursday :	Year 5 and Year 3
Friday:	Year 6 and Year 5 Swimming (5M)

MUSIC TUITION

Guitar and Keyboard Lessons

Spaces Available please contact guitar@stvps.co.uk



Guitar Spaces available for small group guitar lessons for Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

www.RyanMarshGuitarTuition.co.uk

Please book directly with **Mr Marsh, RAM Music**, via his email address:- guitar@stvps.co.uk

Sing Education have spaces for small group **keyboard** lessons at St Vincent's.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO RE-REGISTER IF YOUR CHILD IS ALREADY TAKING LESSONS.

If you would like to sign your child up to start learning the keyboard in a small group, please visit Music Lessons for Schools in Ealing | Engaging Music Education to register.

Group Lesson Duration:
30 minutes each, scheduled during the school day



Rock Steady Music School Lessons



Please note that your child may only learn one instrument during school time.

Whole School Masses
Autumn term
Academic year 2026/ 2027

Date	Mass	Location	Time	Year group
Thursday 3rd Dec	Reconciliation	School Hall/ Breakfast Club/ Chapel	1:00pm	Years 4-6
Wednesday 2nd Dec	Forgiveness Assembly	Hall	1:30pm	Years 1-3
Monday 7th Dec	Advent Mass	School Hall	2.00pm	Whole School

Date (Week Beginning)	Year Group OLOL Friday (AM)
9th November 2026	Year 5
16th November 2026	Year 2
23rd November 2026	Year 6
30th November 2026	None this week due to Advent Mass
7th December 2026	Year 3
14th December 2026	No Mass this week.

Extracurricular Clubs: A polite request to parents to ensure children arrive on time and dress appropriately for extracurricular clubs. Late arrivals will be refused.

Breakfast, Lunchtime and Afterschool Activity Clubs

Autumn term clubs will commence w/c Monday 14th September 2026. Last day of activity clubs will be Friday 11th December.

	Time	Contact/Booking
Monday		
Street Dance ages 5-11 years	8.00am	Website: Elevate Arts
Science Club- Mother Nature	3.30-4.30pm	Website: mother nature science
Football Yrs 3/4	3.30-4.30pm	Email:info@creative-sports.co.uk
Chess Yrs 1-6	Lunchtime	Email- colinlee@live.co.uk
Piano Tuition Years 1-6	All day 30 min lesson	Website: Sing Education
Spanish Years 1-3	3.30-4.30pm	Website: Kidslingo
Tuesday		
Sportshall Athletics Yrs 3-6	8am	Via Arbor Parent App
BEST Yrs 1-3 (Bespoke Emotional Social Teaching)	3:30-4:30pm	https://best4learning.co.uk/stvincentsyr-y3/
Wednesday		
Guitar Tuition Yrs 1-6	All day 30 min lesson	Email: guitar@stvps.co.uk No lesson 4th Nov
Kirin R–Yr 2 **Younger Gymnastics**	7.45-8.45am	Website: https://bookthatin.com/link/StVincentsClubs
KS2 Choir Yr 4/5/6	8-8.45am	Via Arbor Parent App
Kirin Football Yrs 5-6	3.30-4.30pm	Website: https://bookthatin.com/link/StVincentsClubs
The Inventors Yrs 3-6	3.30-4.30pm	Website: The Inventors
Friendship Bracelet Making Yrs 3-6	3.30-4.30pm	Via Arbor Parent App **NO club 23rd September**
Debating Club Years 4-6	3.30-4.30pm	Via Arbor Parent App **NO club 23rd September**
Thursday		
Kirin Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Yrs 1-6	7.45-8.45am	Website: https://bookthatin.com/link/StVincentsClubs
Running Yrs 3,4,5,6	8am	Via Arbor Parent App
Rock Steady Music School Years 1-6	8.30-11.30am 30 min lesson	Website: https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/
BEST Yr 2-6 (Creating an Assertive & Empathetic Mindset)	3:20-4:30pm	Website: https://best4learning.co.uk/stvincentsy2-y6/
Football Year 3-4	3.30-4.30pm	Email: info@creative-sports.co.uk
Drama Yr 3-6`	3.30-4.30pm	Via Arbor Parent App
Friday		
Tennis Yrs 1/2/3/4	8am	Website: Teqnic Tennis
Girls Yrs 3 - 6 **Football**	8am	Via Arbor Parent App
Rock Steady Music School Years 1-6	**8.30-11.30am 30 min lesson**	Website: https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/
The Inventors Yrs 3-6	3.30-4.30pm	Website: The Inventors

BREAKFAST/AFTERSCHOOL Club runs all year-round during term time. Please see Website Portal for further info and dates. Bookings made by Arbor Parent App. If you have any difficulties booking please check your balance.

NB, Afterschool Club does **not** run on the last day of terms ie Christmas, Easter and Summer when we close at 1.10pm.







SCHOOL REMINDERS

Extracurricular Clubs: A polite request to parents to ensure children arrive on time and dress appropriately for extracurricular clubs. Late arrivals will be refused.

Absence A polite reminder that children need to stay at home for 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhoea. Children are still coming back to school too soon. Please find below the NHS link on vomiting.
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/diarrhoea-and-vomiting/

Absence Reporting: If your child is unwell or absent due to any other reason, please communicate this clearly to the school office before 9am on each morning of the absence remembering to state your child's name and class. **If an absence is not reported, it will be marked as unauthorised. P**lease be specific when reporting your child's absence. Do not use the phrase "unwell" as it makes it difficult to monitor illness trends.

Catholic Education Website: Dear parents, if you have not yet done so, you are invited to take a look at our Catholic Education Website where you can find out about the different activities going on in school that relate to our Catholic Education.
This site is regularly updated so please do keep in touch:
https://stvps.link/CatholicEducation

Punctuality: We urge all parents to ensure your child is present in class by 8.30am for Nursery, 8.45am for Reception classes and 8:50am for years 1/2/3/4/5/6. Reception and KS2 gates will open for children from 8.30am and will close at 8:50am. It is MOST important that the children are able to begin their day calmly and on time. Registration takes place immediately when pupils have entered the classroom. This is often the time when teachers give out notices and information. We thank all those parents whose children are on time. We understand, that on occasion, lateness is unavoidable, but please be aware that children's lateness is monitored by the school and persistent lateness is being tracked by the local authority and may require a meeting with Ealing's attendance officer.

Are you leaving school? If your circumstances have changed and you are not returning to school, please kindly come in to the school office to complete a Local Authority "Leavers Form". If this happens over the school holidays, please notify school by emailing admissions@stvps.co.uk

Is your information up to date?

Emergency Contacts: If you have changed your mobile, home or work telephone number, please ensure you report this change to the school office as soon as possible via the Arbor App or email admin@stvps.co.uk. In addition, schools are now required to have two sets of contact details per child.

Please let us know if you have additional contacts that we may add to your child's records. Similarly, if you have moved house, please update us with your new address. It is of utmost importance that our contact details for you are accurate should we need to contact you in case of an emergency.

Your Child's Medical Information: It is of utmost importance that the medical information you have supplied us with, is current and up to date. Please inform the school of any new diagnoses or changes in medical conditions, as soon as they happen, so that we can update our health records.

Special Food Requirements: Please can we ask all parents whose children have known food allergies or require special dietary requirements for medical reasons to email the school office to ensure that we have up to date and accurate details for your child. Similarly, please ensure that you update the school office with any new diagnoses or changes in health conditions as soon as they happen.

No Nuts in School: We are a nut-free school and we would like to remind all parents/carers and childminders that nuts or food products containing nuts e.g. Peanuts / M&M's/ snickers/peanut butter/Nutella sandwiches are not allowed to be consumed on school premises. We have several children with severe nut allergies, for whom, exposure to nuts is serious enough to cause anaphylaxis.

Absence due to appointments/medical

Please ensure that all absence appointment information is sent to the school office **admin@stvps.co.uk** prior to the appointment date.

Early Collection on Fridays Due to Awards Assembly, please inform the school office before 1.00pm if you need to collect your child early.

Smartwatches are not allowed in school. Please ensure that if your child wears a watch, it is just a basic watch with time telling functions and no camera.

New Smartphone Policy (Effective September 2026).
Please clink on this link to letter- Important Updates Regarding Technology and Safeguarding

Term Dates

2026/2027

– please see school website:

https://www.st-vincents.ealing.sch.uk/term-dates/

Arbor Parent App

All communications and payments for clubs are now managed on Arbor (with the exception of 2025 Sayers Croft and PGL deposit). You should have received a Welcome email explaining the process of how to sign up for the free Parent Arbor App. Please now contact the Office to request a new link to this App.

School Uniform Please see the link below for the school's website page giving details of the school uniform.
https://www.st-vincents.ealing.sch.uk/uniform/

Contacting the School:

In order to direct your query or concern to the correct staff member, please see the following information:

For General day-to-day information or enquiries:
admin@stvps.co.uk 0208 992 6625

For Medical and Welfare:
Mrs P Brady - pbrady@stvps.co.uk

For Admissions:
Email: admissions@stvps.co.uk

For Finance:
Email idy@stvps.co.uk

For Safeguarding or child protection matters:
safe@stvps.co.uk

Our Designated Safeguarding Team
safe@stvps.co.uk

Mr S Buyers -	Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs M McCarthy –	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs C Hatfield –	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs P Brady - –	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

For a pastoral or academic concern regarding your child:

We have a team structure, which encourages any pastoral or academic concerns to go through the correct staffing channels:

1. **Contact your child's class teacher**
   - if no resolution
2. **Contact the Key Stage leader for your child's phase**
   - if no resolution
3. **Contact an Assistant Headteacher**
   - if no resolution
4. **Contact Head of School**
   - if no resolution
5. **Contact the Executive Headteacher**

Key Stage Leaders:
Early Years (Nursery and Reception)
Mrs K Hoogwerf - khoogwerf@stvps.co.uk
KS1 - Year 1 and 2
Mrs L Wilding lwilding@stvps.co.uk
Mr Buyers sbuyers@stvps.co.uk
KS2 - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
Mr G McLelland - gmclelland@stvps.co.uk

Assistant Headteachers:
Mrs C Hatfield (Special Education Needs / SENCO)- chatfield@stvps.co.uk
Mrs S O'Malley – Teaching and Learning - somalley@stvps.co.uk

Head of School
Mr S Buyers - sbuyers@stvps.co.uk

Executive Headteacher
Mrs Monica McCarthy admin@stvps.co.uk

PTA Contact Details:
E-mail - pta@stvps.co.uk
Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/groups/163371313729543/
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/ptastvincents?igsh=dXl3dm8yNHJhcmN2
Address –
St Vincent's PTA, 1 Pierrepoint Road, London, W3 9JR
PTA Fundraising Link: https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stvincents/