

### *Building Development Programme*

The creation of a new library and the transfer of our computer suite to the relocatable building was duly completed in the first week of August, whilst the re-installation of our Outdoor Adventure Play Area commenced on 18th August. Our Site Manager, *Mr. Ian Hastie* oversaw the detailed works programme and I am grateful for his commitment and expertise in so doing. Additionally, I record my admiration for the work of *Mr. Hastie* and our Cleaning Staff in preparing the school so thoroughly in preparation for our children's return.

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### *Attendance and Punctuality Matters*

Our attendance target for this school year is 97%. Last year we again came agonisingly close to achieving our aim, reaching an average figure of 96.67%. Clearly, our target is both aspirational and challenging. However, it can be reached with your on-going support. Similarly, in terms of Punctuality I ask you to ensure that your child/ children arrive in good time to begin the school day at 8.55am. To this end, why not make use of our Breakfast Club?

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### *Breakfast Club*

September 2016 marks the seventeenth anniversary of our ever popular Breakfast Club. During the last year our club's average attendance reached an impressive forty children per day. It is with great pride that I confirm that we have managed to maintain the Pre-Millennium cost of only 50 pence per pupil.

The club opens daily from 7.30-8.40am for all children from Nursery to Year 6. For further information please contact any member of the Breakfast Team.

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### *The Feast of St. Vincent de Paul*

Although the Feast of our patron falls this year on Tuesday 27th September we will hold our traditional celebration on Friday 30th September with the following itinerary:

9.30am *Father Stephen* will celebrate Mass in school

11.00am: Party Brunch

12noon: School closes for our traditional half-day holiday

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### *Parent/ Staff Association*

The association exists for the benefit of our children offering valuable practical and financial support. New members are always welcome. For further information please contact our Chairperson, *Mrs Carrie Dwerryhouse* via school.

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### *Extra- Curricular Programme*

Finishing touches are being made to this year's programme and details of the latter will be forwarded to parents in the near future.

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Yours sincerely,

*P. Stewart.*  
Head Teacher.

# *St Vincent's*

September 2016

# Newsletter

*Dear Parents,*

*I hope that this first newsletter of the new academic year 2016/2017 finds both you and your family in the very best of health. On a personal note, I offer my gratitude for the many gifts and expressions of goodwill that both I and my colleagues received at the culmination of the summer term. Thank you for your generosity, kindness and consideration, it will not be forgotten.*

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### *Sacramental Programme*

*Archbishop Malcolm* has decided that the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation will now be returned to the teenage years (13 years). Accordingly, the Archdiocesan Programme, "With You Always" will now focus on the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation for children in Year 4 with effect from September 2016.

Details of this year's programme will be forwarded to parents as soon as it has been finalised by our Chaplain, *Father Stephen Lee*.

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### *Staffing*

Our Governing Body has confirmed the following appointments:

*Miss. Niamh Malloy:* Teaching Post.

Niamh is an Honours Graduate from Queens University, Belfast who completed her Post Graduate Certificate in Education at Liverpool Hope University. Her first post at St. Vincent's will be in our Reception Class.

*Miss. Katy Gerard:* Apprentice Programme

I know that you will offer both colleagues a warm welcome as they embark upon their careers at our school.

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### *Emergency Contacts*

At the commencement of the new school year I urge you to complete the emergency contact pro-forma that accompanies this newsletter.

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### *Medical Information*

Please ensure that school is informed of any medical conditions or changes in the latter. Such information is vitally important in ensuring the well being of our children.

Thank you in anticipation of your co-operation.