

# ST VINCENT DE PAUL SPRING NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

**'SERVING WITH LOVE, STRIVING FOR  
EXCELLENCE'**

## **DATES FOR DIARY:**

Tuesday 18th April - Violence Prevention Workshop (Y4, 5 & 6)

Monday 24th April – Health Team Screening Check (Reception)

Monday 24th April – Water Safety Assembly (Y2-Y6)

Tuesday 25th April – Bringing the Stone Age Book to Life (Y2)

Wednesday 26th April – Bringing the Stone Age Book to Life (Y3)

Thursday 27th April – School closed due to strike action

Friday 28th April – Y2 Trip - Storytelling at Central Library

Monday 1st May – School closed due to Early May Bank Holiday

Tuesday 2nd May – School closed due to strike action

Thursday 4th May – School closed due Polling Day

Monday 8th May – School closed due to Bank Holiday for the coronation of King Charles III

Tuesday 9th May – Friday 12th May – SATs Week (Y6)

Sunday 21st May – Y4 First Holy Communion @ Church

During the Month of May – SATs Month (Y2)

Thursday 25th May – School closes for children half term (3:15pm)

Please remember that throughout the Summer Term we will continue to keep you updated on our school Seesaw platform, please ensure you have it downloaded on your phone/tablet.

## **HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back I hope you all had a lovely Easter break. I am delighted to share with you our Spring newsletter, this is a lovely way to showcase all the activities, projects and visitors that the children participated in last term. The Spring Term is always a short one but we still packed a lot into it – I hope you enjoy the read!



## **YEAR 6 FIRST AID TRAINING**

At beginning of the Spring Term we welcomed the British Red Cross Volunteers who delivered the Youth First Aid workshop to our Year 6 students. The children learnt essential first aid skills and built the confidence and willingness to help someone in an emergency, using everyday objects that they could find around them. They also showed them where to get support if they have an injury or illness, as well as introducing them to the work that the British Red Cross do in the UK.

## **SCOOTSKOOL**



Our ScootSkool Programme was delivered to our Year 3, they focused on how to safely ride a scooter to school, this programme was also a great way to increase the children's amount of physical activity and it supported children's basic balance development and spatial awareness.



## INSPIRING YOUNG ARTISTS

Our Year 3 children have been taking part in the 'Inspiring Young Artists' programme with the National Museum of Liverpool and Liverpool Learning Partnership. Earlier this term they visited the Walker Art Gallery to participate in a workshop focusing on artwork and illustration. They also had the opportunity to see precious items (not on public display) from the archives. This programme will continue in the Summer Term when the children will take part in 2 further workshops with 2 different artists. Finally, they will choose which artist they wish to work with further and they will create their own class piece of art which will be displayed in the Walker Art Gallery.

## STEP BACK IN TIME – HERITAGE CLASS VISIT

As friends of The Storybarn, our school was selected to attend a newly developed trip based on the Stone Age with a specific focus on the Neolithic era. This was a fantastic continuation of Y3's history learning from Year 2. The heritage programme funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund enabled this visit. Throughout the visit the children enjoyed a Neolithic Nature Walk, examined the Calder Stones and read a story together with the Storybarn leaders. It also included a class art activity and a deeper exploration of the Stones. We thank the Storybarn for this fabulous opportunity.



## STEM LIVE!

The Liverpool City Region's Innovation Program is now part-funding a series of 30 more STEM opportunities for EYFS, KS1 and KS2 pupils. This meant that this term our KS2 children were able to take part in two LIVE lessons. The children were

transported on a virtual trip to underneath the city of Liverpool to our very own urban farm! This was farming but not as we knew it! The fantastic team at Farm Urban shared their modern farming methods on how artificial habitats can support plants' needs through the entire life cycle. The children also found about the plants being grown underground in Liverpool and how these new farming techniques are revolutionising sustainability in farming. The children were able to ask questions and take part in live quizzes to aid understanding. We are also delighted to have furthered our relationship with Urban Farm and during the Summer term a selection of classes will be visiting the farm for further learning opportunities.

## ONLINE SAFETY DAY 2023

The theme this year was **Want to Talk About It?**, which was all about the importance of encouraging our children to talk about what they experience online so they can be better placed to deal with any upsetting or inappropriate content they may encounter on the internet. The day began with an Online Safety Assembly and the children then explored the online safety story 'Hanni and the Magic Window' this is written for children of all ages – EYFS, KS1 and KS2. It is a lovely rhyming story that really promotes the importance about speaking out and getting help. Please share again the story with your child again, this is such an important message. The link is below.



### Hanni and the Magic Window | Childnet

Written for children aged 3 and up, this rhyming story is about speaking out and getting help.

[www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/hanni-and-the-magic-window/>



## NATIONAL READING MONTH

March was National Reading Month and we were delighted to take this opportunity to promoting a whole school love for books. This began with the celebration of World Book Day, the children and staff thoroughly embraced dressing up as their favourite characters. The day was filled with lots of exciting activities and the theme was **‘making it ‘your’ World Book Day’**, the children definitely achieved this!



## BOOK FAIR

We were delighted to welcome the Scholastic Book Fair during this month which gave the children the opportunity to use their book tokens and brought extra reading excitement to our school and extra funds! The funds raised will be used to purchase new books for our school library. I am delighted to inform parents/carers that we raised £643!

WOW! Thank you to everyone who supported this fair.





## MYSTERY READER SESSIONS

It was lovely to welcome Librarian Caroline from Lancashire Libraries, who visited every class for a Mystery Reader session as part of our Reading Month. The story sessions really generated a buzz about reading and stimulated lots of book chat. Caroline brought a selection of favourite titles to share with the children, explore and read. Caroline spoke so highly of each class visit and the children thoroughly enjoyed her visit.

## CHARACTER COMPETITIONS

To win further book tokens the children took part in creating their own book 'character'. They had to think carefully about their character design and create their character profile. The Character competition winners will soon be announced by our new Reading Ambassadors. Look out for the winners announcement on Seesaw!

## SPOKEN WORD POWER PROJECT

Our Year 6 children have had an amazing opportunity to work with the 'Writing on the Wall' team. Over the past few months around **180 students** from **6 local schools** have participated in a series of workshops with artists **Toria Garbutt** and **Blue Saint**, where they have created and edited their own poems based around the theme '**The Places I'll Go.**' Following this, each school ran their own Poetry Slam event with the winners being invited to perform at a very special poetry slam at the **Unity Theatre Liverpool** – which coincided with **World Poetry Day!**

Hosted by performance poet, **Dom Berry** and judged by a panel of poetry experts including **Mike Morris**, Co-Director of WOW and local poet and activist, **Amina Atiq**, the event saw **30 young people** from across the **6 schools** share their work with an audience of invited guests, parents, carers & staff.



Massive Congratulations to all the participants and to the winners:

**Michael, Giancarlo, Mohammed, Janel, Skye – St Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary, Liverpool**

All the work performed at the event will also be published in an anthology later this year which will celebrate and recognise the wonderful poems created by the students throughout the project.

## YEAR 6 VISIT TO EXHIBITION OF BLACK GREATS THROUGH THE CENTURIES.

Year 6 visited the African Caribbean Centre to explore the Exhibition on 'Black Greats through the Centuries' which had been created by a local community member and a grandparent of ex pupils - Mrs Jenkins. The displays highlighted the many forms of achievement — often in the face of great adversity and difficulties — that have taken place both before, during and since the transatlantic slave trade era. These remarkable feats had an enormously positive effect on all visitors to the exhibition, but particularly our children. A big thank you to Mrs Jenkins for involving St Vincent's. QUOTE from Mrs JENKINS



## INTRODUCING BEDTIME BOOK BAGS

As you know, we are passionate about reading for pleasure at St Vincent de Paul. We believe every child deserves the right to access and enjoy reading at all ages, and a bedtime book provides the perfect opportunity to discover a new story together. We were delighted to introduce our 'Bedtime book bags' during this month.

Bedtime can be a great time to snuggle up and enjoy exploring other worlds together through the pages of a book. Sharing a bedtime story offers a quiet time to share thoughts, emotions and to chat with each other. Our Bedtime Book Bags comes complete with a teddy, a hot chocolate and a book to share for three nights.

Once the story has been read, the bag, book and teddy should be returned to school for another class member to enjoy. Once everyone has had their turn, the book will be replaced, and the excitement begins again.



## CHANCE TO SHINE CRICKET PROGRAMME



We were delighted to welcome the 'Chance to Shine' cricket coaches this term. Throughout these sessions, the cricket coaches were able to teach vital cricket skills of throwing, catching and ball striking whilst reinforcing to the children the valuable life skills such as teamwork, respect and communication. This programme focused on developing the whole child and the achievement of 'personal best', developing the children's social and mental wellbeing, building their confidence and improving their attitude towards sport.

## EUROVISION LEGACY FESTIVAL

### PEACE GARDEN

As part of the Eurovision 2023 preparations, our Year 5 children were invited by Counsellor's Steve Munby and Hetty Wood to join in the development of the Eurovision Peace Garden - which will be built in the Baltic Green between St James Street and Jamaica Street. The children met with one of the garden designers who shared their vision of a Ukrainian garden focus to acknowledge the fact that Eurovision should have taken place there. The design will incorporate key plants and hard landscaping features highlighted by a Ukrainian focus group, and a strong focus on peace and tranquility. The children were asked to design and create the 30 peace posts that will be used within the garden. This was an amazing opportunity for our children to share their talents and design purposeful art work that will be enjoyed by many. Through this project the children have worked purposefully and thoughtfully we can't wait to see the completed garden.



### MUSIC WORKSHOPS

Our children took part in Eurovision Music workshops which included Singing workshops, song writing, building harmony's, breathing techniques and generating movement with the music piece (choreography of actions). We would like to thank Liverpool College who supported the children in these workshops.

### PHILHARMONIC VISIT 'SENSATIONAL TIME MACHINE'



Year 4 and Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the Philharmonic where presenter Alasdair Malloy, conductor Michael Seal and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra welcomed them onboard the Sensational Symphonic Time Machine to visit fascinating periods in World history including Ancient Egypt, the Roman Empire and the era of the Dinosaurs. This was a thrilling trip through time with amazing music to match, connected to the Key Stage 2 History curricula and delivered in partnership with National Museums Liverpool. Our Year 1 and 2 children will also be visiting the Philharmonic in Summer term to visit the 'Sensational Time Machine'.



## A TASTE OF AFRICA

Linked to the Geography Curriculum our Year 2 children have been comparing our city of Liverpool to a city in Uganda. The children thoroughly enjoyed finding out about the fruit and vegetables that are known to grow in climates like Kampala and they used this knowledge to create their own vegan packed lunch – a lovely taste of Africa!



## WOMENS MERSEYSIDE DERBY

60 members of our school family attended Goodison Park on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March to watch the Women's Merseyside Derby. A record attendance for both teams at the Women's Super League.



## SPRING DISCO

The Spring Disco was great success, the children thoroughly enjoyed the dancing, socialising and the food! Thank you to all the staff who support this event and made it a very memorable time.



## HEADTEACHER'S WORD OF THANKS

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to say a very big personal thank you to all our parents/carers, staff and our amazing children.

*Mrs Salters*

