



"We are called to be the hands and face of Jesus as we learn, love and grow together"

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the children for their incredible teamwork in looking after our younger pupils while their learning area was being transformed. It was truly wonderful to see so many children playing together, showing kindness, and looking out for one another.

The delivery of the new play bark and shingle will take place over the half term, and we're very excited that everything should be ready for the children to enjoy when they return! A big thank you also goes to the PSA (Friends of St Vincent de Paul) and to all the parents for their generous donations and support. This transformation simply wouldn't have been possible without you!

Play Equipment Before and After School

For everyone's safety, we would like to remind you that all loose play equipment and climbing equipment must not be used before or after school. This includes the Early Years Outdoor area which is an outdoor classroom. These should only be used during the school day under the supervision of a member of staff. It was upsetting to see children on the new equipment before the glue and concrete was set and the equipment signed off. All parents have a responsibility of their children before and after school.

Thank you!

Staff news!

I have the bittersweet news that our wonderful Site Manager, Mr Hargrave, will be retiring in mid-March. While we are sad to see him go, we are delighted for him as he looks forward to a very well-earned retirement.

We are also pleased to announce that Mr Allen has been successfully appointed as our new Site Manager and will be joining us at the beginning of March.

Once again, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Mr Hargrave for his dedication and service and we wish him all the very best in his retirement.

Catholic Life

I hope you all got a chance to view the Children's gallery of work on Tuesday afternoon. It was great to see every child's contribution and to raise the importance of racial justice. The children love sharing their work with you, and I am sure you will agree it is fantastic to see the progress they make as they move through the school. Thank you to Mrs Batty for getting everyone organised.



As we look ahead to the season of Lent, please note that Ash Wednesday falls during the half-term break this year, on Wednesday 18 February.

Today, our Year 3 children have gone to meet and make new friends with Children at Yavneh Primary School, our partner interfaith school. We look forward to continuing to build children's knowledge and understanding of others' faiths and beliefs.

Visitors

As always, the school has been busy with visitors, mostly we had a visit from a Nursery Advisor who came to look at the Quality of Education the youngest children receive. The children absolutely shone during this visit! The advisor was incredibly impressed by how the children supported and helped one another; their politeness and excellent behaviour and the wonderful learning taking place every day.

Well done to our youngest children for making us all so proud, and a huge thank you to all the staff for their hard work and dedication in making the nursery such a happy, nurturing and inspiring learning environment.

We are so proud of you all!

Activities, Clubs and workshops

Thank you to the staff members who have kindly agreed to run after school clubs this term. As always, staff are giving up their own time to ensure our children have access to a wide range of activities. Please be mindful that there are not always enough spaces for everyone but staff are doing their best to make things as equal and as fair as possible. We work hard to ensure there are a wealth of lovely learning activities in place for the children and it has been lovely to see how successful all the PE, History and Science workshops that have been taking place across the school.

Sports Update

Boys' Football St Vincents v Martins Wood 4: 1 win
Sports Hall Athletics 4th against all Stevenage Schools

Social Media Update

Please don't forget to follow us on Facebook or keep an eye on the weekly Pupil Posts on our website [PI - News & Letters 2](#)

Have a wonderful Half term.

Kindest regards



Alexandra Whitty
Headteacher



Heavenly Father,
As the season of Lent draws near,
open my heart to Your call for repentance and renewal.
Help me to lay aside distractions
and to seek You with a humble and contrite spirit.
Grant me the grace to fast with joy,
to give with generosity,
and to pray with sincerity.
May my thoughts, words, and actions
draw me closer to the Cross of Christ
and prepare me to rejoice in His Resurrection.
Strengthen me, Lord,
so that this Lent may be a true journey of love,
transforming my heart to reflect Yours.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dates:

February 16th – 20th Half Term

February 25 th	Year3 Fit Kidz Session
February 26 th	Year 5 Knex Challenge Workshop
February 26 th	Year 1 STEM Circus Workshop
February 27 th	Open Morning
March 3 rd	Parent Consultations 3.30pm-5.30pm
March 4 th	Parent Consultations 2.00pm-6.00pm
March 4 th	Year 3 Fit Kidz Session
March 5 th	World Book Day
March 6 th	Year 6 Mass 9:30 St Joseph's
March 9 th	Y5 Handball Team - competition
March 13 th	Year 5 Mass St Joseph's
March 20 th	Year 4 Mass St Joseph's
March 24 th	Reception STEM Bubble Workshop
March 27 th	Easter Reflection (Children only)
March 27 th	End of Term - 2pm