

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
12 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are currently inviting nominations for a Parent Governor and welcoming expressions of interest for Foundation Governors. If you've ever wondered what governors actually do, here's the gist—plainly put.

Governors are volunteers who sit on our Local Governing Board as part of our academy trust. They work with the headteacher to set the school's direction, keep our Catholic character at the centre of decision-making, make sure every child is learning well and safe, and check that public funds are spent wisely. Governors don't run the school day to day—that's the role of staff—but they provide strategic oversight and hold leaders to account with kindness and rigour.

A Parent Governor is a parent or carer of a child currently on roll at St Vincent's. Parent Governors bring the invaluable viewpoint of families: what school life feels like on the ground and what helps children to thrive. They are not there to champion their own child's interests; they think about what is right for all pupils and the long-term good of the school. Parent Governors are chosen by election of the parent body. If we receive one valid nomination, that nominee may be appointed unopposed; if we receive more, we will hold a ballot so everyone has a fair say.

A Foundation Governor is normally a practising Catholic appointed by the Diocese. Foundation Governors ensure that our Catholic mission, worship and ethos are lived out in practical ways—shaping policies, supporting high-quality Religious Education, and keeping our commitment to the common good at the heart of decision-making. They carry the full responsibilities of governance alongside this particular stewardship of the school's character. Appointments are made through a diocesan application process (via the school) and require references.

What sort of person succeeds as a governor? Someone who is calm, curious and community-minded; who can read a short report, ask a sensible question and listen carefully; someone who is willing to learn, work as part of a team and keep information confidential. You don't need to be an education expert—professional experience from any walk of life can be useful, from finance and HR to safeguarding, SEND, premises, data or pastoral work.

The time commitment is modest but meaningful: usually five meetings across the academic year, some reading in advance and the occasional visit to see the school in action. We provide a full induction, safeguarding training and ongoing development. As with all roles in school, appointments are subject to DBS checks.

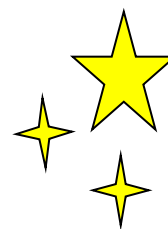
How to put your name forward: For the Parent Governor vacancy, please email the school office to put your name forward. **The nomination deadline is Friday 19 September 2025.** If more than one nomination is received, we will hold a ballot on Friday 26 September 2025.

If you are interested in serving as a Foundation Governor, please email the school office to register your interest. We will share the diocesan application pack and guide you through the next steps. Please submit your expression of interest by Friday 12 September 2025.

If you'd like an informal conversation before deciding, do catch me at the gate or contact the school office at general.post@st-vincents.bromley.sch. I'm very happy to talk through what the role involves and what support is available.

Serving as a governor is a practical way to live our values and make a real difference for every child at St Vincent's. If this speaks to you, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Gonzalez



Stars of the Week

Reception – Diana for improving her listening.

Year 1 – Alina for the cheerful attitude and joy she brings to the classroom.

Year 2 – Kyrie for showing kindness and respect and for working hard to produce great work.

Year 3 – Sophia L for showing a positive attitude and giving her best effort.

Year 4 – Luisa for showing respect to teacher and peers, contributing to a positive environment.

Year 5 – Nero for working hard in Maths and for being helpful in Science.

Year 6 – Amarisa for determination to improve her work.

School Value Awards

Reception – Kaian for curiosity about our book of the week.

Year 1 – Isabella for showing resilience when coming into school.

Year 2 – Athena for working hard to produce fantastic work with a great attitude to learning.

Year 3 – Mia for showing kindness and respect, helping make our school welcoming.

Year 4 – Nathaniel for setting high goals for himself and working hard to achieve them.

Year 5 – Jessica for fantastic ideas and for excellent behaviour.

Year 6 – Veronica for great resilience in music.

Dates for your Diary

Parents and families are warmly invited to join us in celebrating Mass.

If you would like to accompany the school as we walk to Mass, please inform your child's teacher so they can coordinate the arrangements.

Additionally, the Celebration of the Word will take place in the school hall, and parents of the respective year group are welcome to attend.

Monday 15 September	Meet the teacher - KS1 3:30pm, KS2 4:00pm
Wednesday 17 September	Year 6 Celebration of the Word
Wednesday 17 September	Year 5 visit to Mass
Friday 19 September	Deadline for nominations for Parent Governor
Wednesday 24 September	Year 6 visit to Mass
Wednesday 1 October	Year 2 Celebration of the Word
Wednesday 1 October	Year 4 visit to Mass
Wednesday 8 October	Year 1 Celebration of the Word
Wednesday 8 October	Year 3 visit to Mass
Friday 17 October	Last day of first half of Autumn Term
Monday 20 – Friday 31 October	Half term break
Monday 3 November	First day of second half of Autumn Term
Friday 19 December	Last day of second half of Autumn Term

Term and holiday dates up to July 2026 are shown on the school website

This Week's Attendance

8-12 September 2025	
Reception	98.9%
Year 1	97.7%
Year 2	96.8%
Year 3	99.0%
Year 4	99.7%
Year 5	97.2%
Year 6	97.1%
Whole school	98.1%



School Uniform

Thank you to all families who have supported our uniform policy so well this week. The children look incredibly smart and we're proud of how they represent our school. Wearing the correct uniform encourages a sense of pride and belonging, while supporting fairness and consistency for all pupils.

We have recently updated our Uniform Policy and have included it with this newsletter. Please take a moment to read through the guidance and ensure your child is dressed appropriately each day.

A quick reminder about school bags: these should be either the official *St Vincent's school bag* or a plain black or navy bag. Thank you for supporting this approach.

If you have any questions or need support with uniform items, please don't hesitate to contact the school office—we're here to help.

Meet the teacher

We will be holding a Meet the Teacher event on **Monday 15th September**, with two short sessions to accommodate families:

- Key Stage 1 (Reception and Years 1 & 2): 3:30pm
- Key Stage 2 (Years 3–6): 4:00pm

This is an informal opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and hear about the year ahead. Please note that teachers will be sending home the main class information in a letter on Monday, so attendance at the session is optional.

We look forward to welcoming those who are able to join us.