

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter
14 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

At St Vincent's, we want every child to thrive — and one of the biggest factors in a child's progress, confidence, and long-term achievement is simple: being in school, every day, on time.

This half term, our whole-school attendance for Years 1–6 sits at 96.2%, which is above the national average.

That's something to feel proud of, and I want to thank the many families who make punctual, regular attendance part of their daily routine.

However, we do still have some children whose absence levels are creeping up. Our persistent absence figure is 9.7%, which, although lower than national, still means a number of pupils are missing significant learning time.

Research from the Department for Education makes it clear: children with the best attendance achieve the best outcomes. Even a few days missed each term add up quickly — gaps form, confidence dips and it becomes harder for children to keep pace.

Regular attendance is also a safeguarding matter. School is often the safest, most stable part of a child's day, and good attendance helps us spot early if a child needs support.

Parents have a legal duty to ensure children attend school regularly. We know family life gets busy — illnesses happen, unexpected challenges arise — and we're here to support wherever we can. If you're struggling with routines, anxieties, medical issues, or anything else affecting attendance, please talk to us early so we can help.

At the same time, the guidance from the London Borough of Bromley is very clear. Unauthorised absences, including holidays taken during term time, may lead to a Penalty Notice where thresholds are met. These are issued by the Local Authority under the national framework.

Just a reminder that term-time holidays cannot be authorised unless there are truly exceptional circumstances — and these are extremely rare. Unauthorised holiday absence of 10 sessions (5 school days) within a 10-week period usually triggers consideration for a penalty notice.

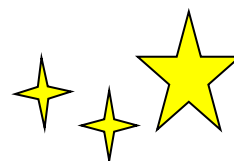
We want to keep building on the positive picture we already have. Here's how we can all play our part:

- **Aim for 100% attendance** wherever possible.
- **Avoid term-time holidays** — they have a real impact.
- **Keep up good morning routines** so children arrive on time and ready.
- **Talk to us early** if something is making attendance difficult.
- **Work with us** on any support plans or next steps if your child is falling below expected levels.

Every day really does make a difference. When children attend consistently, they learn more, develop stronger friendships, and feel more secure.

Let's keep working together to make sure every child has the best possible chance to shine.

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Gonzalez



Stars of the Week

Reception – Elissa for a positive attitude towards learning and always putting in her best effort.

Year 1 – Kyla for enthusiasm and eagerness to participate in class activities and discussions.

Year 2 – Izaiah for working hard on creative tasks, demonstrating lovely ideas.

Year 3 – Manuela for a positive attitude to learning and always putting in her best effort.

Year 4 – Margot for great perseverance in her studies.

Year 5 – Alison for amazing writing skills.

Year 6 – Max for continuing to make great improvements in writing.

School Value Awards

Reception – Finley for great strength in forgiving others and helping to maintain peace.

Year 1 – William for understanding that mistakes happen and offering forgiveness.

Year 2 – Teddie for kindness and respect to others.

Year 3 – Megan for being ready to help others, spreading positivity and care throughout the school.

Year 4 – Antonio for seeking out new information about how a mobile phone works.

Year 5 – Adriana for resilience during class work.

Year 6 – Joshua for making good overall improvements.

Bronze Awards

Bronze Awards are for earning 25 dojos! Well done!

Year 1 – Seth, George, Fali.

Year 2 – Harry, Gabia.

Year 3 – Gabriel M, Michael, Olive, Olivia.

Year 6 – Aziah, Daniel M, Violet, Amari, Emily, Imogen.

Silver Awards

Silver Awards are for earning 50 dojos! Well done!

Reception – Rayden, Louisa.

Year 1 – Sofia, Kyla, Albert.

Year 2 – Athena.

Year 4 – Lyla, Maria, Nathaniel, Orion, Chimamanda, Victoria, Kayla.

Year 5 – Ola, Jessica, Oliver, Olu, Nero, Juliet, Flora, Darcie, Adriana, Abigail.

Year 6 – Ezra.

This Week's Attendance

10 – 14 November 2025	
Reception	96.4%
Year 1	97.0%
Year 2	95.2%
Year 3	99.7%
Year 4	99.4%
Year 5	98.4%
Year 6	97.3%
Whole school	97.7%



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.

Tuesday 18 November	Flu vaccinations
Tuesday 18 November	Infant Movie Night (Rec, Years 1&2) - Elf
Wednesday 19 November	Year 3 trip to Buddhist Centre
Wednesday 19 November	Year 4 visit to Mass
Wednesday 19 November	Year 5 Celebration of the Word
Friday 21 November	Non-Uniform Day – donations for the raffle
Wednesday 26 November	Year 5 visit to Mass
Thursday 27 November	Junior Movie Night (Years 3-6) – The Grinch
Wednesday 3 December	Year 3 visit to Mass
Wednesday 3 December	Year 4 Celebration of the Word
Monday 8 December	Year 1 Nativity 2.00pm
Tuesday 9 December	Year 2 Nativity 2.00pm
Wednesday 10 December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 10 December	Christmas Fair
Friday 12 December	Reception nativity 2.00pm
w/c 15 December	KS2 Carol Concert 2.00pm (date TBC)
Friday 19 December	Last day of Autumn Term
Monday 5 January	First day of Spring Term
Monday 19 January	Year 5 trip to National Portrait Gallery

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