

# St Vincent's School

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## Christmas Newsletter 2015

### Principal's Christmas Message

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and fruitful New Year.

The new year will see the start of the first Visually Impaired Fire Cadet training, another first from St. Vincent's!

We have many events taking place during 2016 , an Easter Bingo, a Science and Sports Workshop on Saturday 6th Feb and a summer BBQ in June.

Please keep following us at [www.stvin.com](http://www.stvin.com) and contributing to Twitter @StVincentSL12.

Dr J Patterson

### Veolia Recycling Discovery Centre

During November Post 16, Foundation 1, enjoyed an educational visit of discovery to the Veolia Recycling Discovery Centre in Gillmoss, Liverpool .

The aim of the trip was to develop the young people's knowledge and understanding of the recycling processes that some of our general household waste can go through on its journey to be re-used into other products.

See the pictures of the group enjoying the experience, by visiting the gallery at [www.stvin.com](http://www.stvin.com)

### Talking Green Ideas

Councillors Laurence Brown & Anna Key, from Liverpool Green Party, visited school to talk about green ideas with Dr Patterson, joined by Mike Bailey from CBI.

Dr Patterson invited Mrs Boland and Mrs Gallagher to share with them the many projects taking place, across the curriculum, that we are involved in at St Vincent's including; Solar Schools and are newest venture to build a recycled greenhouse from 2 litre plastic bottles. We will need at least 1600 of these bottles, so please save all of your empties and send them into school with the children in the new year.



# Everton in the Community (EitC)

## Premier League Enterprise Challenge

### Trip to Goodison Park

And so it was that we boarded the minibus at St Vincent's, packed lunches safely stowed behind the rear seats.

Fully laden and full of hope, we set off for Utopia...errrm...I mean Goodison Park!

This was to be the second session with the



EitC representatives and was part of the Premier League Enterprise Challenge.

EitC had spent an afternoon with S6G1 a couple of weeks before explaining the Challenge and helping to develop the seeds of an idea with which to grab the attention of the competition judges.

That first session had started very slowly. The students were coaxed into voicing their ideas and expanding on their thoughts. By the end of the session, there was a definite product in place.

The consensus amongst the students was that they should promote the idea of a Bluetooth-enabled ear-piece that would initially offer

informative and entertaining commentary to people with visual impairment.

From the initial idea grew a whole lot of other ideas that would enhance the experience of match goers.

All that was left to do was to put together a business plan and presentation to promote the idea as a prospective and viable business opportunity...!

The second session was an opportunity to use the backdrop of the Football Club to best effect and receive further assistance from the EitC staff.

We arrived at Goodison Park where there seemed to be a blue theme running through the place. The large Christmas tree, around which we congregated, looked magnificent draped with blue, white and silver lights and decorations!

Four other schools were also participating in the Challenge, each group went off to their own executive box overlooking the pitch.

We began to piece together our presentation, using photographs from around the Stadium.

There still remains a great deal of work to be done before the business plan and final presentation are completed and ready to go.

However, the students have shown enthusiasm and innovation and have coped well with the demands of the workload, given the short space of time they were given to carry out the task and the demands on their time in the run up to Christmas. .

I know that when everything is finished, the business plan and presentation will capture the judges' attention and St Vincent's will be in with a very good chance of going through to next round of the competition. Fingers crossed...!



# Meet Sue Robertson

I'm Sue Robertson and am the new Finance Director at Catholic Blind Institute (CBI). I started on 1 October 2015.

I am a qualified Chartered Accountant. I have lived in Formby nearly all my life. I went to school in Crosby and University in Bristol where I studied Geography.

I am married to Ian an RSPCA Inspector and have two daughters Ruth, who has just qualified as a Solicitor and lives in Bristol and Zoe who is training to be a Primary Special Needs Teacher and wrote her dissertation on VI (there's a bit of a theme going on here isn't there?!).

I'm beginning to wonder if I was being steered towards CBI without even realising it.

I have been bowled over by the staff and pupils at St Vincent's. The staff with their passion and commitment to the lives of our pupils and by the pupils with their enthusiasm for everything!

I have been lucky to arrive this term and been able to take part in the Annual General Meeting and Remembrance Assembly in our amazing Chapel which was incredibly moving.

I also came to the Christmas Production which was fabulous. I've been able to see the effect the Ypres trip has had on everybody.

I was very proud of all involved appearing on BBC local news during my first full week here.

I have also been lucky enough to have shared a meal with Ella, Jack, Josh, Connor and Mrs Simpson in Keller.

The tacos were delicious and the company great fun. Mrs Buckle then showed me around Bridgman and Caulfield which I found really interesting.

My husband and I also joined the residential pupils for their end of term 'Chippy Tea' which included some hysterical Christmas jokes, a lovely Christmas story as well as us distributing gifts to be shared by them.

I'm looking forward to Christmas lunch which I've been told is a very special occasion. I've

even bought a new Christmas outfit for it which I hope amuses everyone!

Sue, top right in the picture, enjoying the fabulous Christmas dinner at St. Vincent's.

I intend to be as involved in the life of St Vincent's as I can using my financial skills/talents to help us grow and make the most of any opportunities that come our way.

Thanks to everyone who has made me welcome. I love being here.

Thanks.





# An apple, an orange and a sugar pig



Our Christmas performance, an apple, an orange and a sugar pig, was a fabulously emotional, inspiring success.

The audience crowded into the chapel for the afternoon and evening performances, leaving standing room only for late-comers.

Every child had a part to play in the 3 magnificent settings of a World War 1 sitting room, trench and tableau.

Many thanks to the staff who have spent many a long hour preparing scripts, coaching actors, making scenery, designing costumes and decorating the chapel in preparation.

