Saint Vincent’s prides itself on the partnership working we have developed with the wider community in general and with our parents in particular. This includes regular and much appreciated input from Scotland reads volunteers ,Stem ambassadors ,Parent helpers and other volunteers including a chess master, home school partnership worker, Active schools’ co-ordinator .This term we have taken this partnership working to a new level as we promote creativity through a very exciting interdisciplinary topic called “Our Fragile earth “All classes have been introduced to “Dr Gorman” who has set the scene and challenged children to think about how they would survive in a different planet. (You may have heard a report in the news during the past week where Stephen Hawking also suggested that we may have to look to live on other planets in the distant future.)

During the past week parents had the opportunity to meet Paul alias “Dr Gorman from NASA “Paul is a consultant from the organisation “Hidden Giants “with whom we are currently working to promote creativity through interdisciplinary learning, we were delighted with the turnout of parents, the quality of the discussion and the very positive feedback we received from this meeting. It was an opportunity for parents to hear more about this project and how they can support their child’s learning and encourage them to ask and to answer “Big questions” Parents asked for regular updates via the school website and this has prompted me to revive the Headteacher Blog where I hope to give you a weekly report on what is happening in our school.

We had a very positive Parent Council meeting on Wednesday and a full account of this meeting including the headteacher report will be available shortly when the minutes are published. Suffice to say that we touched on many topics and issues pertinent to our school and felt very encouraged to see so many parents in attendance willing to work together with our very dedicated staff for the good of all our children. In keeping with current government policy we explored how we can close the gap in our own school and provide learning opportunities that will raise attainment for all.

The first Pupil council meeting of this term was held on Tues and as usual class representatives were brimming with ideas and suggestions for improving our school. They even reported that we were giving masterclass points too easily much to the annoyance of other pupils when this was reported back at assembly! The Friday masterclasses are hugely popular and it is a delight to see children from across the stages being rewarded for good behaviour and learning new skills.

Many of us after school clubs including Space, Technology, Athletics Go Ball and Engineering are up and running and some more clubs are being planned for the coming weeks. Primary 4 children enjoyed their visit to the Glasgow Science Centre this week and we continue to enjoy the benefits of being finalists in the Rolls Royce Science prize and all the exciting learning opportunities it is providing for our children. Children from Rooms 9.10 and 11 took part in the “walk a mile” initiative which will be rolled out to other classes during the coming weeks.

I attended a Learning Community meeting in Saint Andrew’s and Saint Bride’s where Mrs Patricia Stewart headteacher of Saint Hilary’s was honoured for her distinguished service as she retires in a few weeks. We wish her the very best from all us in Saint Vincent’s. I hope we all enjoy the week ahead.