

# Mini Vinnies

## VINSIDER

TERM 4 2024

**With Term Four just around the corner, the school year has gone by quickly and we are grateful for your continued involvement and support throughout it.**

We have seen some incredible activities and donations in Term Three, with a special thanks to all the schools that participated in our Winter Appeal; read more about the 2024 Winter Appeal below.

As we wrap up the 2024 school year, please remember that the Youth Engagement Team is here to help with any 2025 planning. If you would like to get more information about a potential activity, book a speaker, or start a Mini Vinnies program at your school, now is a great time to get started.

Just send an email to [youth@svdpwa.org.au](mailto:youth@svdpwa.org.au) and we will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

Wishing you all the best for a fantastic break and a wonderful end of the 2024 school year!

**Zoe Hands**, Youth Engagement Coordinator

## Term Four Activities

**Bring Christmas cheer and the spirit of giving into your classroom through engaging, hands-on activities in Term Four.**

This Term, build empathy for those who need extra support over the holidays and learn how your support makes a difference.

Christmas cards are always a welcomed addition to our Christmas hampers.

A handmade card and message of hope and inclusion signed by the school can be a great way for students to connect with the work Vinnies does over the holidays while bringing a smile to the recipients of our hampers.

- [Christmas can be... activity](#)
- [Christmas gifts activity](#)
- [Supporting community activity](#)

[www.vinnies.org.au/wa/get-involved/youth-and-schools-wa/primary-school-resources](http://www.vinnies.org.au/wa/get-involved/youth-and-schools-wa/primary-school-resources)



# Winter Appeal 2024 - Thank you!

**A huge thank you to all the schools who participated in our 2024 Winter Appeal!**

A huge thank you to all the schools who participated in our 2024 Winter Appeal! The awareness and empathy raised by the students will foster a lasting connection to the issue of homelessness, promoting kindness and respect well beyond this year.

We are still receiving amazing donations for this year's winter appeal. So far, schools across Western Australia have raised an impressive \$11,545.31 for Vinnies WA services, making a tangible difference to the lives of the most vulnerable in our communities. In addition to these funds, the outpouring of generous donations - including blankets, clothing, toiletries, and canned goods - will be crucial for our Conference's Emergency Relief efforts during the colder months. These contributions are truly life-changing and we couldn't be more grateful for your ongoing support.

If you would like to learn more about the School Sleepout or are interested in running one in 2025, please reach out to [youth@svdpwa.org.au](mailto:youth@svdpwa.org.au).



## Team Update

After many exciting months in the role of Youth Engagement Coordinator, Zoe Hands will be moving on to pursue a new professional challenge. Hannah Taylor will be returning from her maternity leave this term to continue supporting the brilliant efforts of your schools. For any queries, updates, or just to connect with the Vinnies Youth team, please don't hesitate to reach out to [youth@svdpwa.org.au](mailto:youth@svdpwa.org.au).

## Vinnies WA Christmas Appeal 2024

In Term Four we are focussing on helping families get back on their feet as part of our 2024 Christmas Appeal and we meet Tania and her three children who have shared their story of receiving assistance from Vinnies.

The included activities and our upcoming Christmas Appeal Kit will offer opportunities for your students to engage with the issues that Vinnies WA works on every day while supporting our work through the 2024 Christmas Appeal. Please watch out for future communications with all our Christmas Appeal resources.

You can also access all our resources via the Youth and Schools page on our website. <https://www.vinnies.org.au/wa/get-involved/youth-and-schools-wa>

## School Spotlight

Each Term we will highlight the work of a special school that supports Vinnies WA.

Would you like to share your school's successes through the School Spotlight? Reach out to [youth@svdpwa.org.au](mailto:youth@svdpwa.org.au) to register your interest!



# Meet St Munchin's Catholic School

St Munchin's have been an amazing support for Vinnies throughout this year. With their newly established Mini Vinnies group, they have already gone above and beyond to support their local community.

Recently, the Mini Vinnies group organized a PJ Day at their school to raise funds for Vinnies services. The event was a huge success, resulting in an incredible \$585.90 donation.

We recently even had the St Munchin's Mini Vinnies team come and visit us here at Ozanam House in Canning vale. Eager to find new ways to support Vinnies, the students participated in a special session learning about Vinnies WA services, touring the warehouse and packing a range of hygiene products available for Conferences to deliver to Emergency Relief clients. All together, the students made up a fantastic 66 care kits.

Thanks to schools like St Munchin's we have seen an amazing range of valuable donations, including funds, food, blankets, clothing and more. We are still receiving donations for this Winter Appeal as the school term comes to a close, and would love to thank them all. If you are aware of school donation drives running soon, please reach out to the youth team to let us know.

Thank you for your amazing work and support, St Munchin's.

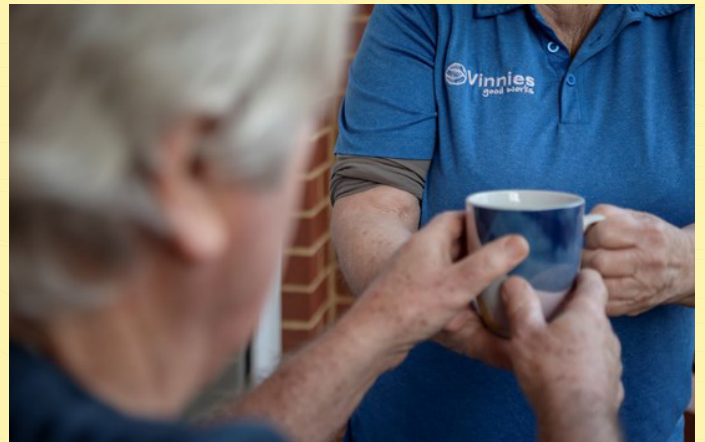
Would you like to share your school's successes through the School Spotlight?  
Reach out to [youth@svdpwa.org.au](mailto:youth@svdpwa.org.au) to register your interest.

## Conference Connection

There are 75 St Vincent de Paul Society Conferences in Western Australia.

These Conferences are made up of volunteers, or members, who live or work in a specific area. Each Conference works to support their communities through Emergency Relief and other programs that meet the needs of their neighbours.

Each Term we will feature a local Conference to share a little about who they are and what they do in their communities.



## Meet the Woodvale Conference

The Woodvale Conference, established in 2009, serves the communities of Woodvale, Kingsley, and Edgewater, and extends support to Joondalup, Maddley and Hocking with Emergency Relief services.

The Conference has between 12 and 18 active members, conducting home visits five days a week. With the assistance of St Luke's Parish they provide food hampers, vouchers and utility bill support to those in need.

Conference President Travice expresses his gratitude for the strong relationships with St Luke's Catholic Primary School and Mater Dei College, whose ongoing donations of toiletries and blankets greatly supported their Winter Appeal this year.

Schools like yours support Conferences to do their work through your financial donations, food drives and item collections.  
If you would like to learn more about your local Conference, reach out to [youth@svdpwa.org.au](mailto:youth@svdpwa.org.au)

# Join Mini Vinnies

The Mini Vinnies program supports schools to offer education around social justice issues, empathy building activities, and leadership opportunities. This program is designed to flex to your school's individual needs, and we are happy to answer any questions you may have, and you can review our Mini Vinnies Starter Kit [www.vinnies.org.au/media/gqtpmtff/mini-vinnies-starter-kit.pdf](http://www.vinnies.org.au/media/gqtpmtff/mini-vinnies-starter-kit.pdf)

If your school is ready to sign up to participate in Mini Vinnies, or if you would like to learn more about the program, now is a great time to register your interest for 2024. Simply fill out the survey [www.surveymonkey.com/r/VinniesSchoolGroupReg](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VinniesSchoolGroupReg) and we will reach out with next steps.

## Mini Vinnies Badges

We're thrilled to offer a streamlined process for requesting your Mini Vinnies badges.

### Follow these simple steps:

- Complete a brief survey with your details - [www.surveymonkey.com/r/VinniesBadgeRequest](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VinniesBadgeRequest)
- Share a brief overview of your involvement with Mini Vinnies.
- Sit back and look forward to receiving your Mini Vinnies badge that proudly reflects your students' commitment.

We can't wait to see your badges proudly displayed throughout the year.

## Request a Speaker

Are you interested in having a Vinnies representative speak with your students?

Presentations for up to 40 students at a time can be an amazing way for your students to better understand the St Vincent de Paul Society and the work we do to support people experiencing homelessness and poverty in WA.

We would love to connect with your students and show them the incredible impact they can have as young people.

Simply email [youth@svdpwa.org.au](mailto:youth@svdpwa.org.au) to inquire about a speaking event.



[vinnies.org.au/wa](http://vinnies.org.au/wa)

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### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as the Traditional Custodians of this land, with deep respect. May Elders, past and present, be blessed and honoured. May we join together and build a future based on compassion, justice, hope, faith, and reconciliation.