

Focus on.....Year 1

Wow, we cannot believe we are nearly at the end of Autumn 2 already!! We have been so busy! As well as working hard in English and Maths, we have been spending lots of time practising our KS1 and Reception Nativity performance. We are really looking forward to performing it to you all next week.

In English, we have been focusing on the book 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. We have loved this book and we have been completing lots of fun tasks to help us improve our writing. We are now putting everything we have learnt together to write our own version of the book.

In DT, we have been designing and making Christmas hand puppets. We have been looking at the best way to join fabric together and the importance of designing before making our puppets. We are really excited to finish them off next week.

Miss Billington and Mrs Dowler are so proud of you all, keep up the good work!



Newsletter 14

15.12.2023

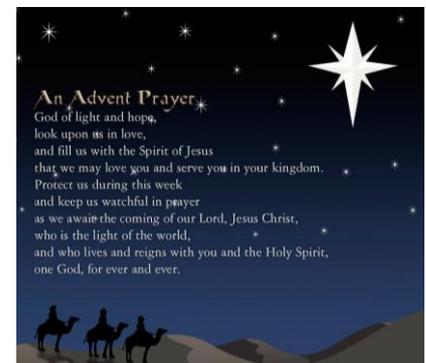


*Believe, Trust and Be Ready
"That they may have life, and to the full" John 10:10*

Time to Reflect

by Mrs Davies

As we approach the end of the year and prepare for Christmas, our lives are filled with hustle and bustle as we get ready for Christmas Day. In school, we tell our children that Advent is a time for preparing on the inside, in our hearts, as well as on the outside. Amongst all our decorations, do we find a place for a nativity scene and do we think of what we can do for others just as much as we think about ourselves? This Advent, there have been so many occasions of children engaging in tasks that put others first. Here is a little prayer to guide us through the next, and final week.



Behaviour Awards

Good Conduct Award – Excellent attitude in all aspects of school life.

Courtesy Award – Good manners and polite behaviour.

Merit Award – Super work and effort in a particular area of the Curriculum.

| Year Group | Good Conduct | Courtesy | Merit award - comment |
|------------|--------------|----------|--|
| Reception | Lily | Patrick | Reggie – for fantastic effort in our nativity. |
| Year 1 | Lyra | Max | Peyton – super effort with her Lost and Found retell. |
| Year 2 | Edward | Alfie | Stanley – trying really hard with writing in R.E. |
| Year 3 | Ella | Carys | Henry – lovely letter about the circus! |
| Year 4 | Darcy | Amelia | WHOLE CLASS – super effort in Carol Service. |
| Year 5 | Freddie | Olivia | Vasylii – being a fantastic new member of the class. |
| Year 6 | Georgie | Max | Lily – for singing so beautifully at the nativity at church. |

Dear Parents and Carers,

Can you believe it – nearly the end of the Autumn term – only one week left! It's been a lovely penultimate week here in school with lots of hard work continuing as well as singing and laughter heard around school!

Have a lovely weekend. God Bless,

Miss Groarke and everyone at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary School

KS2 Christmas Carol Service



A huge thank you to all our KS2 pupils who put on an amazing performance on Wednesday night – the singing, acting, reading and enthusiasm was wonderful. The children were a credit to us all and we have had lots of lovely feedback from very proud parents and families. Thank you also, to all our dedicated staff who give so much of their time to put on events such as these, it is very much appreciated. You can see the Service again on the Church website.

<https://stvincentsknutsford.org/watch-online>

It was lovely to receive so many comments and emails from you about grandparents in England, Ireland and South Africa being able to live stream in.

"I feel very weepy. You really have been blessed to have them both at such a special school..🌟❤️😊"

Year 4 Music Performance

On Monday, we were entertained by our Year 4 pupils who put on a lovely music performance showcasing their many talents. They sang, played their instruments, and read music showing just how much progress they have made since September. All their parents and teachers are incredibly proud of them.



House Points

House points are awarded throughout the week for all kinds of achievement or for good behaviour in all classes. The house point totals for this week were as follows:

| St. Andrew | St. David | St. George | St. Patrick |
|------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| 18 | 22 | 21 | 16 |

Well done to this week's winning house – **St. David**

Attendance

| | | | |
|------------------|-------|---------------|--------------|
| Reception | 97.9% | Year 4 | 97.1% |
| Year 1 | 97.6% | Year 5 | 98.4% |
| Year 2 | 96.7% | Year 6 | 99.2% |
| Year 3 | 98.4% | | |

WELL DONE YEAR 6 – AMAZING ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!

KS2 Singing at the Crib Service



What a lovely evening we had at the Knutsford Crib Service last Saturday. Our children led the singing beautifully and looked so smart. The children were accompanied by the City of Chester Brass Band. Thank you to all those children and their families who joined us and to the staff for giving up their Saturday evening.

Christmas dinner

We all enjoyed a tasty Christmas dinner yesterday. Thank you to Mrs Freeman and her team.



Menu Change

On Thursday 21st December, the dinner choices will be Pasta Italiane or choice of sandwiches. Reminder:- Cheshire East Catering are increasing their prices significantly with effect from January 2024, and therefore we will have to increase the cost of paid school dinners to cover this increase. The cost of a child's school dinner will increase to **£2.65 per day from 1st January 2024**. School dinners should be paid for in advance via ParentPay. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are still entitled to Universal Free School Meals. Pupil Premium children throughout KS2 are also entitled to free school meals. If you think your child is eligible for free school meals, please go to our school website and follow the link to apply directly with Cheshire East Council. [Free School Meals \(cheshireeast.gov.uk\)](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk). If you need any assistance, please contact Mrs Corrigan or Mrs Watson in the school office.

Travelling Cribbs

It has been lovely to see that the true meaning of Christmas has been discussed at home. Reception and KS1 children have been reading the Nativity story at home and our KS2 children have written an 'Advent Prayer' focusing on love and kindness for us all. The prayers have been read out in class and placed on our prayer table in the main entrance. We have had a lot of amazing pictures with our travelling cribbs. Here are just a few pictures:



Year 5 & 6 – Internet safety

On Wednesday afternoon, our PCSO Carlos Paulo came in to talk to all the Year 5 and 6 children about keeping themselves safe. He talked about digital footprints and online safety.



Diocesan Building Fund

We have now collected **£1,130** for this year's Diocesan Building Fund. Thank you to those that have paid via either ParentPay or standing order. Our optimum amount is **£2,970** if everyone contributed, which therefore makes a shortfall of **£1,840**. Any shortfall must be made up out of the school budget, which has a direct impact on the school finances. Please contribute via ParentPay, no matter how little.

Reverse Advent Calendar

Ian from Hope Central collected all the kind donations today. He was very grateful for all your contributions. Thank you everyone.





PTA Fun Ball Friday Lottery

Today was the seventh PTA Fun Ball Friday draw of the Autumn Term. Today's lucky ball was number 35. Congratulations to the parents of Georgie (Y6) and Edward (Y4). Staff, parents, governors and relatives aged 18 and over are all eligible to join. Each Friday in assembly the child or grandchild of the lucky winner can choose a ball!

Each lotto number costs £2 a week and is purchased via ParentPay before 5pm on the Thursday before the draw. Don't forget you have to be in it to win it! GOOD LUCK!

We hosted a wonderful **Christmas Fair** last Friday and managed to raise a brilliant **£1427!** It takes teamwork and a lot of help (in school and outside of school) to make an event like this successful so we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our ever-loyal PTA core committee, our wonderfully enthusiastic and helpful new volunteers and every parent from each year group that helped organise and support their own stall. We would also like to thank the teachers for all their help with the craft stalls and to everyone that bought a ticket, came along and spent money. We have such a wonderful St. Vincent's family.

We are thrilled to announce that we raised an impressive £250 from our **wreath making workshop** last week. The feedback from all the mums that attended was so positive, and we were delighted to hear that it was such a fun and sociable evening. The wreaths looked beautiful. Thank you again to our reception mums for hosting this event. Roll on Christmas Wreath Workshop 2024!

You have until 12pm next Wednesday, 20th December, to buy your **Christmas Raffle Hamper** tickets. Don't forget we have 7 amazing hampers, organised by each Year Group, to be won. Please support our school PTA by buying your tickets for £2 each via ParentPay. It's a bargain so buy as many as you can. Our Christmas Hamper winners will be announced on Wednesday afternoon and in next Fridays Newsletter.

Next Wednesday, 20th December, we'll be holding a **gingerbread man sale** in the playground after school. Some of the biscuits will be decorated and some plain. All priced at £1. We'll take card or cash.

Special Thank You - A very big thank you to all our wonderful PTA members for a great Christmas Fair last Friday night. You have done an amazing job this term; your hard work and enthusiasm has been very much appreciated. Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting the events and activities that have been organised. Without you the events would not be the success they are. St. Vincent's is a fantastic community; one of which we should all be very proud.



Birthday Wishes!

Many happy returns for this week:



The Week Ahead

| | Start Time | End Time |
|--|------------|----------|
| Monday 18th December | | |
| Year 1-6 After School Sports Club – Multi sports (DR Sports) | 15:15 | 16:30 |
| Recorder Club | 15:25 | 16:00 |
| Tuesday 19th December | | |
| Rec/KS1 'The Bethlehem Star', school hall – tickets via ParentPay | 14:15 | 15:00 |
| Rec/KS1 'The Bethlehem Star', school hall – tickets via ParentPay | 17:30 | 18:15 |
| Wednesday 20th December | | |
| Year 4 – please bring instruments | | |
| D.R. Sports After school Club | 15:25 | 16:30 |
| Thursday 21st December | | |
| Christmas Parties Day | | |
| Rock Steady Music | | |
| Friday 22nd December | | |
| Carol Service, School Hall – parents/carers welcome | 14:15 | 15:00 |
| Break up for Christmas Holiday | | 15:25 |
| D.R. Sports – KS2 Football | 15:30 | 16:30 |

* DR Sports After School Clubs are booked directly through their website at www.drsportsclubs.co.uk

EasyFundraising is a simple way to donate to St Vincent's PTA at no extra cost to you. Simply visit the website or download the app to see the 7,500 brands, set St Vincent's PTA as your cause and the PTA will automatically receive donations whenever you buy gifts, decorations, festive food shopping and everything else over the Christmas period and beyond. The PTA has received over £2,500 so far, it really adds up, so whether you're using EasyFundraising for the first time, or haven't used it in a while, please look! Scan the QR code below to get started.



Father David and St. Vincent's Church

[St Vincent De Paul RC Church, Knutsford \(stvincentsknutsford.org\)](http://stvincentsknutsford.org)

Masses at Knutsford: Sunday – 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Masses at Lymm: Vigil Mass at St Winefride's, Booths Hill Rd, Lymm, WA13 0DL at 5.45pm on Saturdays.

MUMS AND TOTS AT ST. VINCENT'S PARISH CENTRE All preschool aged children and parents/carers are welcome every Friday (except the first Friday of the month) at the Parish Centre from 10am until 12.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS each Saturday from 11.30am-Noon

CLOTHES FOR REFUGEES: We would welcome donations of Autumn and Winter men's clothes particularly jumpers, socks and footwear. Leave at back of Church.