

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Headteacher: Mrs A Harrop, MEd NPQH

25 November 2016

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

ADVENT

Sunday 27 November is the first Sunday of Advent. We have lots of exciting activities to help us prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Attached is an Advent parent planner. Please keep this handy as it serves as a great reminder for all of the school activities taking place during Advent.

CHRISTMAS FAIR - TOMORROW 11 - 2PM!

Please do come along to our Christmas Fair. We are looking forward to raising lots of money and having lots of fun! The Grand Raffle draw and the 300 Club draw will take place at approximately 1:30pm in the Junior Hall. Good luck! Thank you for all of the bottle and chocolate donations sent in to school today.

FESTIVE MARKETS - FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER

Don't forget that St Vincent's Festive Markets will be held on Friday 2 December. This will be in the Junior Hall from 7:30pm and tickets are £5 (which includes a glass of fizz). The ticket request form is attached. There will be similar stalls to previous years (including Laundry Boutique) with lots of festive food and drink too. It is a great opportunity to buy some lovely Christmas presents for friends and family.

INFANT ADVENT MASS

This Mass will take place on Wednesday 30 November 9:05am in the infant hall.

YEAR 3 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME - ENROLMENT MASS

The enrolment Mass will take place on Sunday at 10am at St Vincent's Church and 10:30am at Holy Angels Church. Please note that the roads will be busy so please leave plenty of time to park and walk to the church.

CORNERSTONE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

During Advent we will be supporting the shoe box appeal for the Cornerstone drop-in centre in Manchester. Starting from next week, the Mini Vinnie Class Reps will be talking to all children about the appeal and asking them to donate **single items** to collate into shoe boxes.

We suggest that any of the following could be donated for men or for women - woolly hat, scarf, gloves, socks, toiletries, sweets and chocolates. If you would like to donate something to this appeal there will be a box placed in both the Infant and Junior office. Thank you for your support.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH – IMPORTANT LETTER ATTACHED

All children in school will be served a traditional Christmas Lunch on Thursday 15 December. Please see the attached important letter regarding payment for the meal (if your junior child has packed lunches), and opting out.

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS

The Reception and Year 4 children are busy rehearsing for their Christmas plays. Parents of children in Reception and Year 4 will receive an email next week when tickets will be available to purchase on www.parentpay.com. Tickets will be sent home in school bags on Friday 9 December.

STEM SUBJECTS (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHS)

Our special science days will take place next week.

The Junior Science day will take place on Wednesday 30 November and the Infant Science day will take place on Friday 2 December. On each of these days we will be welcoming Dr Nick Tomczyk, a Principal Analytical Scientist, to our school to talk to the children in each department about STEM.

Throughout Science day all children will take part in a range of activities and experiments, including a whole school 'tower building' challenge. We would therefore appreciate any old paper, newspapers and rolls of sellotape that you could donate to your child's class.

We would also like to take the opportunity to promote the many different Sciences in our community and would appreciate any help from parents who have knowledge of a particular scientific field. If you are an astronomer, physicist, engineer, veterinarian or chemist, for example, we would love for you to share with the children details of your field in order for them to get an idea of how Science is applied in everyday life. If you would like to take part, please let your child's class teacher know as soon as possible.

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

Attendance Percentages	
Best infant class attendance	Mrs Burke/Mrs Burke and Mrs Crook 99%
Best junior class attendance	Miss Slater, Mr Kerigan and Mrs Duggan/Mr Blain 99%
Overall school attendance	97.05%

Please note that disability related absences are not taken into account when calculating best attendance.

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Attached are the school term dates for 2017 - 2018. Please do refer to these dates if you are booking family holidays as the school is not able to authorise a holiday during term time. Please also note that all routine appointments for the dentist or optician should be made outside of the school day.

We aim to be a listening school and offer an open door to parents. Mr Blain, deputy head teacher is based in the junior department and Mrs Tiernan, deputy head teacher is based in the infant department and both will be very happy to answer any initial questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,



A. Harrop (Mrs)

Headteacher

