

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School



Headteacher: Mrs A Harrop, MEd NPQH

9 December 2016

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

ADVENT

Thank you to everyone who came along to the junior Advent Mass. It was lovely to see so many parents, grandparents and friends of the school come along to it.

FESTIVE MARKETS

Thank you to everyone who came along to the festive markets last Friday. Thanks also to the PTA who organised this wonderfully festive event, which raised over £1,000 for school.

JUNIOR ADVENT SERVICE

The junior Advent service preparations are well underway. All junior children are involved in this service and are all expected to attend on Tuesday 20 December at 6:30pm. This service will be held at St Vincent's Church.

EVENTS AT HOLY ANGELS

The parishioners of Holy Angels, Hale Barns have begun the immense task of raising the funds to build a much needed Parish Hall, which will also provide a facility for the local community.

The first major fundraising event is a Christmas Artisan Market to be held on 10 and 11 December, 11am - 6pm at Holy Angels. It will include an artisan food and drink market, festive craft and gift hall and fantastic entertainment. Please see the website for further details. Attached is also a letter from Father Martin inviting parishioners to a Family Mass on Christmas Eve at 4:30pm.

CORNERSTONE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

Thank you for your generous donations! The Mini Vinnies have been collecting them each day and are getting ready to put them into shoe boxes. If you would still like to donate you can drop items at either school office; everything will be delivered to Cornerstone the week before Christmas. Suggestions of donations for men or for women are woolly hat, scarf, gloves, socks, toiletries, sweets and chocolates.

SCHOOL CHOIR PERFORMANCE

The year 5 and 6 choir were invited to take part in a very special charity fundraiser at the Bridgewater Hall. The choir sang beautifully on the stage. It was a truly spectacular moment for the children and the audience. Special thanks to the children, Mrs Mackenzie who played the piano on stage and for Miss Hobday for accompanying and arranging all of the choir rehearsals.

We are looking forward to the Y3 and Y4 choir perform at Manchester Cathedral in aid of Henshaws Charity next week.

RECEPTION MILK FOR NEXT HALF-TERM

Due to the mid-week break-up date, we are opening the Reception milk scheme slightly earlier this term. If your child will not reach the age of 5 before Friday 10 February 2017, they will continue to be eligible for additional school milk as part of the Department of Health Nursery Milk Scheme. All requests for additional milk can be made via your 'PARENT LOGIN' on the school website before 4pm on Monday 19 December 2016.

CHRISTMAS CARD ORDERS

We are expecting to distribute the Christmas card orders on Monday. If you have placed an order, please can your child bring a named carrier bag to school on Monday. Only orders that have been paid for will be sent home. If you haven't yet paid, please do so before Monday.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

As explained in last week's Newsletter, the children will enjoy a traditional Christmas Lunch on Thursday. The food has been ordered and the preparations are underway! If your junior child usually has packed lunches, please pay for your child's meal on ParentPay (£2.10).

TICKETS FOR CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS

The tickets for the Reception and Year 4 Christmas productions next week will be sent home with the children this afternoon. All performances are sold out! Many thanks for supporting your children in their preparations.

SCHOOL VISITORS

We have been fortunate to welcome more visitors to school.

Last week year 6 welcomed visitors from the Trafford Magistrates who spoke to the children about the justice system here in the UK. Year 6 also welcomed inspector Chris Potter who works for Greater Manchester Police. He spoke to the children about British values and how important they are in promoting respect and tolerance in society no matter what our differences in terms of religious beliefs, race or culture. It was an inspiring talk and many children afterwards were discussing careers in the police force!

We also welcomed Mrs Dickinson and Mr Gillyon to our school to run coding workshops with Year 2 and Year 3 as part of the global Hour of Code initiative. During their visit, the children learnt about the importance of digital technology and had the opportunity to learn and apply coding concepts. Thank you to all of the visitors who have been in to school recently. Visitors help to enrich our curriculum and make our learning even more interesting and fun.

SCHOOL COUNCIL BOOK SALE - REMINDER

The school council will hold a 'Bring and Buy' book sale on Tuesday 20 December. We would like to invite children and parents to have a look through their books as a pre-Christmas clear out and to donate for the sale any children's books that have been read and enjoyed. Please could you send any donations during week commencing 12 December. On the day of the sale, children will be invited to buy books for 50p per book. This might be a way for children to buy a book as a present for a sibling or to enjoy themselves!

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

Attendance Percentages	
Best infant class attendance	Mrs Jennings 100%
Best junior class attendance	Mrs Sands 99.65%
Overall school attendance	96.3%

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

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

