

## Focus on.....Year 3

This week in Year 3, we have been working hard in all our lessons. In Maths, we have been learning new times-tables and focusing hard on lots of word problems. We are all enjoying our new Science topic of 'light' and learning what light sources are and how shadows are made. In English, we have been focusing on the circus and have written a diary entry and a persuasive letter to ask our friends to join us. This has been continued in our Artis lessons where we have been learning about mimes and stage presence. A very busy week working hard in Year 3!



This week in Forest School, Year 3 used their Geography knowledge to create their own scale models of mountains. They all had to work in their teams to create their own - even in the cold!



## Newsletter 12

01.12.2023



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

## Time to Reflect by Mrs Davies

Last Sunday we celebrated the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. This was the last Sunday of the Church year which means we focus on the final and glorious things to come! It also means that this Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent. Kings are powerful, but Jesus is a very different kind of king. He is the king of love. Even when things are bad, when we are frightened, or hurting, upset or lonely, Jesus is right there with us. He is always willing to love us and to welcome us. We can be kind, welcoming, generous. We can make sure that when we have power, we use it as Jesus did – for the good of all people – not just to make ourselves rich or important. We can make sure we include others in our friendships and in our games. We can join with others to raise money or to change a situation that we think is unfair or needs improvement.

Let us try to share our love with each other and to be there for each other in the most difficult times.



## 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	Hugo	Theo	Georgia – for trying really hard with her phonics sounds.
Year 1	Charlie	Florence O'K	Dora – super effort with her phonics.
Year 2	Theo M	Rhea	Rose – trying really hard to participate more in class.
Year 3	Zara	Beatrice	Oliver T-P – trying hard in every lesson especially R.E.
Year 4	Hattie	Conor	Bobby – excellent effort with writing.
Year 5	Lottie	Ferreira	Elliot – an amazing piece of writing.
Year 6	James	Harry	Matthew – a truly shining description of a creepy forest.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unbelievably, this Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent when our Christmas preparations will truly begin. As we approach this special season, please keep in your prayers all those friends and family who are poorly or struggling at this moment. In the frantic dashing around we can forget what is important in our lives as we become distracted by the commercial aspects of Christmas. So, start the season of Advent as you mean to go on, by taking time out to pray as a family and think of others less fortunate than ourselves.

Have a lovely weekend,

God Bless,

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

## **Knutsford Lights Switch On**

On Saturday there will be great excitement in Knutsford town centre as the Christmas lights are switched on. A group of Reception, Year 1 and 2 children from St. Vincent's will be singing at the event and it would be lovely if you could come along and support us. Children who are singing need to be there at 2.30pm and will be on stage at approximately 2.50 pm.

## **Advent Mass**

You are all very welcome to join us for the Advent Mass which will take place at school at 9:30am on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December. This is a wonderful opportunity to join us as we begin that special journey to Christmas Day.

## **Reverse Advent Calendar**

Christmas this year will be a lot different and harder for many families. Some people in our country are living in food poverty which means they do not have enough money to buy food to feed themselves or their family. Our local foodbanks have asked for our help again. We would like to do a Reverse Advent Calendar where every child in our school is given a day to bring in one item of food. It will be placed in a box and not touched until the final donation is in. We will then send it to the foodbank to be distributed to those who need it most. This will start on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December and finish on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Your child will be given a date to bring something in. We would like to brighten up Christmas for everyone. Please give just one item of food to help those who are less fortunate than us. Thank you for your support, All the Mini Vinnies

Any donation would be wonderful, but we especially need:

UHT Semi-Skimmed Milk	Coffee	Tinned Custard	Cereals
Corned Beef	Household Cleaning Products	Tinned Pasta	Tinned Potatoes
Chinese Sauces	Tinned Carrots	Tinned Peas	

## **Year 4 Brass Musical Instrument Performance**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2.45pm in the school hall there will be a short musical performance led by Year 4. Parents and Carers of our Year 4 children are welcome to join us to celebrate the wonderful work they are doing in their Wider Opportunities Music lessons.

## **School Places for September 2024**

If you, or anyone you know has a child due to start school in September 2024 please ensure all applications are done through Cheshire East by 15th January.

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/apply-for-september-2024-school-place.aspx>

## Mini Vinnies - please support us! Fabulous Prizes!

In the run up to Christmas, the Mini Vinnies are supporting the JustDrop-In charity, which has been successfully delivering mental health and social support services to children and families for over 20 years, by running a Fundraising Raffle. All funds will go to ensuring that this charity can continue its important work in our town. It would be fantastic if you can support the Mini Vinnies in this important fundraising by buying raffle tickets through ParentPay. We have some fantastic prizes – see the prizes on the attached flyer which have been generously donated from our high street businesses. Tickets £1 each (£5 for a book of 5).



## Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumpers– Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December

The menu for our Christmas Dinner on 14<sup>th</sup> December was emailed to parents this week. Please ensure that if your child would like a Christmas dinner, you email Mrs Watson **BEFORE 7<sup>th</sup> December** so that Mrs Freeman can get her order in! **Please read the following carefully and only email me if you are asked to:**

**RECEPTION/KS1 CHILDREN:** We will assume that all children will be having a Christmas dinner on 14<sup>th</sup> December. **You do not need to email me UNLESS** your child is having a packed lunch from home instead of the Christmas Dinner on that day.

**KS2 CHILDREN:** We will assume that children that usually have a school dinner on a Thursday will be having a Christmas Dinner that day. **You do not need to email me UNLESS** your child is either having packed lunch from home that day instead of their usual school meal, OR they would like a Christmas Dinner instead of their usual packed lunch. The cost of the dinner is £2.50 (unless your child is entitled to Free School Meals), and this needs to be paid via ParentPay.

## Advent Prayer

Please click on the link below to start the journey of Advent with your child and family.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/prayer?pid=MTA101634&v=111.2>

## Advent Activity Books

During Advent we will be selling KS1 and KS2 Advent Activity Books. The cost of these is 75p each and can be bought via ParentPay. Numbers are limited so it will be first come first served.

## No Parent Readers next week

Please note there will be no Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 Parent Readers on Wednesdays until the New Year.

## 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
17	<b>22</b>	18	20

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

## Attendance

Reception	95.7%	Year 4	93.2%
Year 1	96.9%	Year 5	<b>99.3%</b>
Year 2	96.7%	Year 6	98.5%
Year 3	98%		

**WELL DONE YEAR 5 –AMAZING ATTENDANCE AGAIN THIS WEEK!**

## Advent - Travelling crib

Advent is a time when we prepare for Christmas. Amidst all the Christmas performance preparations, shopping, presents etc., it is important that our children also understand the true meaning and importance of Advent and Christmas. We will be sending home our 'Travelling Cribs' again as part of our Advent celebrations starting on Monday 4th December. If you are to host the Travelling Crib during this time, please share it with your family and, if possible, take a photo and email it into school. Please make sure the complete bag is returned to school the next day so that it can travel to the next host family. Many thanks and we hope you enjoy your time with the Travelling Crib.

## Support at home?

Please remember if you need any financial or food support at this time please come and see Miss Groarke. She can make referrals for support to The Welcome, the SVP at church and Caritas charity so if you are struggling, please come and see her.

Cheshire East Council's [Preventing and relieving homelessness \(cheshireeast.gov.uk\)](http://cheshireeast.gov.uk) also have staff available to deal with homelessness prevention; the officers can give advice to families on a variety of issues e.g. concerns relating to rent and mortgage arrears, debt and the fear of losing their home. Early intervention is something they encourage. They have leaflets and a website. For a referral into appropriate advice and support. Phone: 0300 123 5017

Email: [housingoptions@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:housingoptions@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

## Esafety

The digital world is vast and children need monitoring on it. There are many steps you can take as a parent or carer to monitor your child's behaviour in the digital world: Check websites that children are visiting. Check your child social media pages (they really shouldn't be on any!), photos, comments, etc. Look through your child phone messages & records. Use parental control for blocking, filtering or monitoring children's online activities. All parents need to check their child's behaviour online regularly at home.

In school we will be doing lots of work linked to esafety and our digital footprint throughout Year 5 and 6, especially as children will have more freedom as they move into Year 7. It is vital that parents ensure your child understands the implications of the things they write online. Ask them would they say this to a person's face? Do they understand that, just because they delete a comment, it does not simply 'go away' as it can be screen shot by another person before it is deleted and then kept forever? Some of the content of Whatapp or other messaging sites go far beyond 'banter' and we suggest you look closely at your child's device and speak to them as soon as possible if you are concerned. It is vital that parents play an active role in monitoring their behaviour online and in messages - and then dealing with them accordingly.

Please see the attached Whatsapp guide and parental control guide and our website for help.

<https://www.stvincentsknutsford.co.uk/page/safeguarding-and-e-safety/29365>

## Lost Property

We have an ever-increasing amount of lost property in school; clothes, water bottles etc. Anything that is not named will be cleared out over the Christmas holiday. The box is in the entrance area if you want to come and have a look through and claim any.



## PTA Fun Ball Friday Lottery

Today was the fifth PTA Fun Ball Friday draw of the Autumn Term. Today's lucky ball was number 25. Congratulations to the parents of Edward (Y2). 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 still have places available for our **Christmas Wreath Making Workshop**, hosted by our Reception parents/carers on 4th December at 7:30pm in the school hall. Tickets can be purchased on ParentPay. Bring a friend and come and join us for some festive season fun.

## Christmas Hampers Raffle

A big thank you to all Year Group parents for their generosity, tremendous time and effort that went into organising their Christmas Hampers! Some of the hampers have surprises hidden in them too.

Attached to the newsletter are pictures of each hamper to help you decide on which ones you'd like to buy tickets for. Tickets will be available to buy through ParentPay until Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. One ticket will cost you only £2 and you can buy as many tickets as you want, for whichever class you want to. The year group that manages to sell the most amount of tickets will win a surprise from Miss Groarke.

These Hampers are luxurious and filled with surprises you won't want to miss out on. This is your chance to win big!

We encourage you and your families to get involved. GOOD LUCK!

## Birthday Wishes!

Many happy returns for this week:





## Father David and St. Vincent's Church

**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.

**THE LADIES GROUP** The Ladies Christmas Lunch is planned for Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm in the Church Hall. The cost is £12 payable by 30 November. Forms available after Sunday Mass from Sheila Flynn or Andrea Ross.

**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.

<b>The Week Ahead</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>End Time</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>		
<b>Year 2 Forest Schools</b>		PM
<b>Year 4 Wider Opportunities Music – Love Music Trust - remember instrument</b>		PM
Year 1-6 After School Sports Club – Multi sports (DR Sports)	15:15	16:30
Recorder Club	15:25	16:00
PTA Wreath Making Workshop, School Hall – sign up via ParentPay	19:30	21:30
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>		
Whole School Advent Mass, School Hall – everyone welcome	09:30	10:30
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>		
<b>Y5 visit to Jodrell Bank – permission/payment via ParentPay</b>	ALL	DAY
KS2 Choir after school	15:30	16:30
Mad Science After School Club (Last one)	15:25	16:25
D.R. Sports After school Club	15:25	16:30
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>		
Rock Steady Music	ALL	DAY
<b>Y3/Y4 Little Champions event</b> at Knutsford Academy – email Mrs Watson to sign up	16:00	17:00
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>		
<b>PTA Christmas Fair</b> , School Hall – all welcome	16:30	19:00
D.R. Sports – KS2 Football	15:30	16:30
<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>		
<b>KS2 Crib Service</b> , outside Lost and Found – sign up via ParentPay	15:45	16:15

\* DR Sports After School Clubs are booked directly through their website at [www.drsportsclubs.co.uk](http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk)