

# St Vincent de Paul Catholic School – Newsletter

9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dear Parents,

During our Advent journey we have been celebrating the joy, hope and peace that the season brings. In the Catholic life of the school, the approach of Christmas gives us a special opportunity to remember that the true meaning of Christmas is the celebration of an incredible act of love when God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to be born. His birth brought great joy to the world and we too with the shepherds, wise men, and angels can share in the excitement and wonder of this amazing event through the Year 2 Nativity Production. Year 2 have been working extremely hard in preparing a fantastic Nativity Play to share with us next week. Reception and Year 1 will add their beautiful singing voices to make this a very memorable and special occasion. We hope you can join with us to be part of this celebration.

Mr Keane, Headteacher



## St Joseph's Re-opening

St Joseph's Church will be open for Christmas!!

Here are the Mass times:

**Christmas Eve Family Mass: 4pm**

**Christmas Eve Mass: 10pm**

**Christmas Day Mass: 10am and 12noon**

**No evening Mass**

Weekday Masses began this week, in the new church hall

Weekday Mass times are:

Mon 9.15, Wed 7pm & Friday 9.15am

## Christmas Nativity Play

**Tues 13<sup>th</sup> 2pm** Nativity Play

**Weds 14<sup>th</sup> 10.45am** Nativity Play

**Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> 2pm** Nativity performed (sorry, no toddlers)

## Christmas Tree Festival

Thank you to all those who made a beautiful decoration for the Holy Trinity Church's "Stevenage Christmas Tree Festival". Our school have entered a tree and it looks wonderful. The theme of our tree is "Love around the World".



Unfortunately we couldn't use all the decorations so all those not on the tree will be displayed around the school on our own Christmas trees. The Festival runs from Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> – 2pm until 8pm, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> 2pm until 6pm and Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> – 10am until 4pm. Entrance is through the main door on the south side. £2 adults, £1 12-18 year olds and under 12s are free.

## Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair was another great success. The PSA would like to thank all those who helped, especially the Year 6 pupils who lent a hand with the setting up and manned some of the stalls. Sean said; "I liked the bags of sweets donated by Key Stage 1 parents and the popcorn machine was fun." Bridie enjoyed the snowball game and the tombola. *Reporters Bridie & Maisie*

## Basketball County Finals

Our Year 6 Basketball team represented the town this week in the County Finals in St Albans. The standard of play was very high and we did extremely well. All our games were very close and we were unfortunate not to proceed to the final stage of the competition. Well done to all the team.

## Mini Vinnies

The Mini Vinnies are holding a Christmas Raffle to raise money for a local charity. There are a number of great prizes. The prizes are: A Nerf, Baby Annabelle Doll, Care Bear, Remote Control Car and a Box Set of Winnie the Pooh stories. The tickets are 20p each and the draw will be made on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

## A Big Thank You ...

The Stevenage Community Food bank would like to thank all the pupils, parents and staff of St Vincent De Paul school for their generous donations towards their work in supporting those in need throughout Stevenage, Knebworth and Woolmer Green. They were overwhelmed at the amount of donations. A happy, healthy and Holy Christmas.

## Year 1 – Living Nativity



Yesterday Year 1 visited London Zoo and took a journey through the scenes of the nativity. They met the wise men and their camels, they saw Mary in the stable and talked to the Shepherds as they tended their sheep. The children also met Santa and he told them all about the animals he meets as he travels around the world. The children then visited the rest of the animals in the zoo. Alfonso was very excited when he saw his favourite animal, the tiger, which walked right past him.

## Attendance this week

R: GI Mozart 94.7%	PL/TL O'Connor 94%
Yr 1: SC Mistral 97.8%	VH Stein 97.3%
Yr 2: AP Pasteur 97.2%	LMc More 90.7%
Yr 3: JC Hildegard 97.3%	CH Seacole 97.3%
Yr 4: DA Bonifacio 96%	AS/SH Michelangelo 97.9%
Yr 5: CB Agnesi 97.3%	GB Teresa 98%
Yr 6: EG Shakespeare 96.7%	RJ Tolkien 96%

*Whole school 96.3% - Congratulations to Mr Barlow's year 5 class as they achieved the best attendance this week*

