

St Vincent de Paul Catholic School Newsletter

24th March 2017

Dear Parents,

During this period of Lent we have been focusing on a Be Spirited week. It was an opportunity for the children to be engaged in reflection and prayer around a range of themes. Prayer stations were set up in both Key Stage halls and every class throughout the school had the opportunity to participate. The prayer stations provided different ideas and activities for the children to consider such as Creation and our world, a blessing for someone close to us, peace across the world and a prayer wall. Children were absolutely amazing in their expressions of faith and prayer.

The Lenten Reflection next week will be focusing on the Passion of Christ and the Resurrection. Many thanks to all of you who have come along and we would like to extend a special invitation to those who have not yet attended at 8.40am for 10 minutes. A special "Thank You" to all those pupils who have been magnificently generous in offering up their time to make the reflection such a special occasion.

Attendance this week

R: GI Mozart 94.3% PL/TL O'Connor 97.3%

Yr 1: SC Mistral 93.6% VH Stein 97.8%

Yr 2: AP Pasteur 98.3% LMc More 96.7%

Yr 3: JC Hildegard 98% CH Seacole
97.3%

Yr 4: DA Bonifacio 94.7% AS/SH
Michelangelo 98%

Yr 5: CB Agnesi 98% GB Teresa 97.3%

Yr 6: EG Shakespeare 90% RJ Tolkien
97.3%

*Whole school 96.3% Well done to Year 2
Pasteur for the best attendance this week.*

Punctuality

In future, we will be publishing the punctuality figures for each class. From September to this date there have been an incredible **962 lates!** It is very important for all children to attend school every day and arrive **on time**. School starts promptly at 8.50am. Children should arrive in good time for when the bell goes. This is essential to ensure that children benefit fully from classroom learning and that other children's learning is not disrupted. All lateness/attendance is recorded and monitored by the school and the Education Welfare Officer. A letter outlining the importance of punctuality and attendance will be sent out at the beginning of next term, when hopefully we can have a less disruptive learning situation for many of our children

Welcome to our Junior Travel Ambassadors!

Our school has been chosen by the Road Safety in Schools team to pilot the Junior Travel Ambassadors initiative. We were so delighted that so many Year 5 children applied for the four positions following an inspiring talk by Barbara Lane, the local officer. The quality of applications was outstanding so it was hard to choose, but Barbara presented the four ambassadors-Trudi, Honey, Samuel and Allen- with their certificates and badges in an assembly and later returned with their special JTA kitbags to discuss how to coordinate support to improve travel to and from school.



It was agreed that the first, and very urgent, action is a campaign to ensure enough parents volunteer to help with the Church car park so that this facility is kept open next term. The team will be ensuring this has a very high profile over the next week...after that it will be too late and there will be NO parking at St Joseph's!

Sporting success - Stevenage champions!

Our girls part in a Stevenage High 5 Netball Tournament at Marriot's School. The girls were outstanding. They played and won all three preliminary matches to reach the final. In the final they played Bedwell School in a very close encounter. At half time, we were 1-0 down but managed to equalise in the second half to bring the game to extra time. In extra time, we managed to score a winning goal to finish 2-1 winners. The girls also played two netball matches this week winning 14-0 against Roebuck and 7-1 against Ashtree. This week the boys football team played in the quarter-final of the Stevenage Schools Cup against Martins Wood. After a closely contested first half which ended 1-1 the boys put in a fantastic second-half display to end up eventual 4-1 winners. The boys are also continuing a very good league run and are in contention for

