

## Focus on ... Reception

The Reception children have had a wonderfully busy and exciting end to the term as we prepare for Christmas. They have been working incredibly hard practising for our Reception/KS1 Christmas Nativity, learning songs and actions with great enthusiasm. It was fantastic to see them all shine as they performed to family and friends earlier this week.

In RE, the children have been learning about the story of the shepherds and how the angels visited them to share the good news about the birth of Jesus. The children created some beautiful artwork inspired by this story.

We have also been having lots of fun getting ready for Christmas. The children thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas party, taking part in games, dancing and celebrating together. A very special highlight was meeting Father Christmas, which brought lots of excitement and smiles as the children shared this magical moment. The children also loved playing games with their Year 4 buddies, building friendships and enjoying time together across the school.

We are very proud of everything the Reception children have achieved this term. Thank you for your continued support, and we wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.



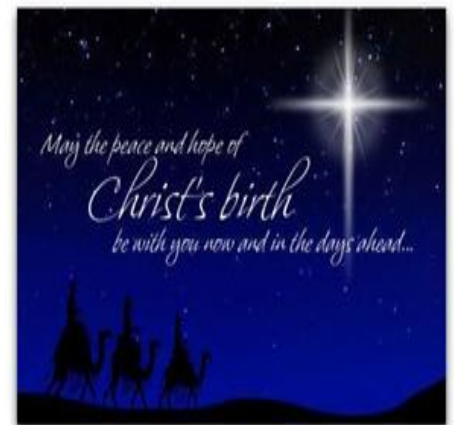
## Newsletter 15

19.12.2025



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

**Our gospel value this week is:**  
**Forgiveness**



## Behaviour Awards

**Conduct and Courtesy Award** – Great attitude with good manners and behaviour.

**Merit Award** – Super work and effort in a particular area of the Curriculum.

Year Group	Gospel value: Forgiveness	Conduct & Courtesy	Merit award - comment
<b>Reception</b>	James	Frances	Albie – fantastic performance in our KS1 Nativity
<b>Year 1</b>	Charlotte	Frankie	Leon – fantastic effort with his spellings and Year 1 Common Exception Words
<b>Year 2</b>	Henry S	Christian	Emmie – for always trying to do and to be her absolute best!
<b>Year 3</b>	Jack	Sophia	Charlie – for trying really hard to improve his handwriting
<b>Year 4</b>	George	Leo	Theo F – for being reliable and working hard all term
<b>Year 5</b>	Henry	Amelia	Ella – for her amazing effort writing a setting narrative
<b>Year 6</b>	Zach	Yasmin	Daisy – for being incredibly hard working all term

Dear Parents and Carers,

Can you believe it – the autumn term has flown by! As this is our final newsletter of the term and of 2025, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support throughout the year. A special thank you goes to our wonderful staff, who have gone the extra mile to make this term – and the Christmas celebrations – so memorable for your children. It has been a truly busy and festive final week, filled with Nativity plays, parties, the Rock Steady Concert, and our carol service. Seeing so many happy, smiling children enjoying these events, alongside proud parents, grandparents, family, and friends, has been a joy.

We are deeply grateful for your generosity and continued support – it means so much to our school community. As we close the term, we wish you all a happy and holy Christmas with your families and loved ones. Stay safe during the holidays, and we look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year on Monday 5th January 2026.

God bless,

Miss Groarke and all the staff at St. Vincent's

## Mend the Manger – A Magical Christmas Performance

This week, our youngest children, aged just 4 to 7, delighted us all with their wonderful performance of 'Mend the Manger'. Through their songs, lines, and joyful presence, they reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas. We were so amazed by the incredible talents of our children. Their confidence shone brightly as they delivered a fantastic show that filled everyone with festive cheer. Thank you for helping with costumes and for guiding the learning of lines and songs at home. A huge thank you again must also go to our talented and hard-working staff, who dedicate so much time and energy to ensuring every child has the opportunity to shine. Their commitment across all classes is what makes moments like this so special. Together, children and staff again created a magical celebration of Christmas that we will all remember.



## Christmas Parties

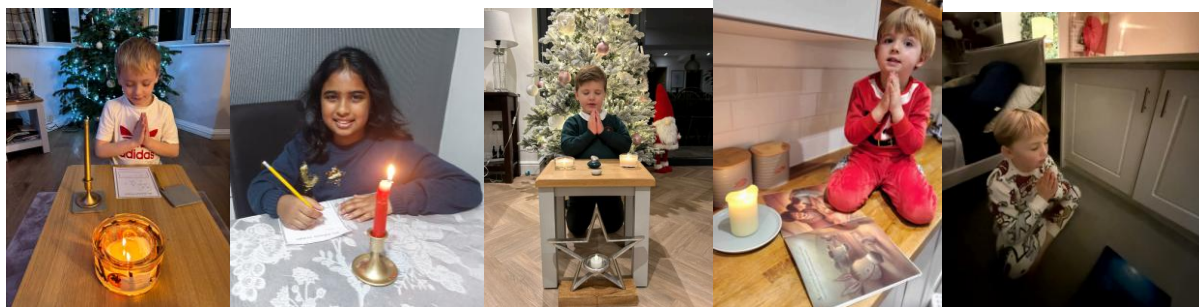
Wednesday was Christmas party day for the whole school! Reception, Year 1 and 2 played lots of different games such as musical statues and pass the parcel and had a surprise visit from Father Christmas.





## Travelling Cribbs

This week we marked the third Sunday of Advent together in school. The travelling cribs have now gone home, and it's been wonderful to hear how families are reflecting on the true meaning of Christmas. The prayers shared have been so thoughtful, and the creativity shown has been inspiring. We've received many beautiful pictures—here are just a few highlights:



## Reverse Advent Calendar

On Monday, two members of the Hope Central Foodbank team came to school to collect all our Reverse Advent Calendar donations. They were amazed at how much we had collected and wanted to pass on a great big thank you to all our families. Lots of people in Knutsford will benefit from our donations over the Christmas period. A big thank you also to our Mini Vinnies for the heavy lifting of the parcels out to the Foodbank car. Another example of St. Vincent's community thinking of others and going the extra mile.

Thank you for your support, Mrs Davies and the Mini Vinnies.



### A message from Hope Central:

Thank you so much for the huge amount of food that you had collected and donated to Hope Central this week. We were blown away by the sheer amount of items you had collected during Advent. This food will go out to individuals and families in the local community who are struggling at this time. One of our Foodbank recipients recently said "Thank you for your continued support with bringing me food parcels. It's been a massive help and lightened a burden."

It is down to the kind support of people like you who enable us to provide a lifeline for those in need. Your donation was especially timely as we have seen a huge increase in referrals to our Knutsford Foodbank in the run up to Christmas so thank you for helping provide hope to these people.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with hope, joy and peace!

## 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. David	St. Andrew	St. George	St. Patrick
17	16	23	21

Well done to this week's winning house – St George!

## House points for Autumn Term

The winning House this term was St Andrew with 307 points, in second place came St George with 275 points, in third place came St David with 271 points and in final place came St Patrick with 267 points. Well done to all the children for behaving and working so hard this term and gaining so many points for their Houses. All of St Andrew can come in on Tuesday 6th January wearing a BLUE T-Shirt/top and with a game to play. They will be having special time in the hall playing games in the afternoon for an hour. They will be led by House Captain – Chloe and Vice-Captain - Noah

## Attendance

Reception	92.2%	Year 4	93.3%
Year 1	92%	Year 5	92.6%
Year 2	95.2%	Year 6	92.6%
Year 3	89%		

**WELL DONE YEAR 2 – GREAT ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK!**

## Whole School Attendance for this week – 92.2%

## Reception and Year 1 Christmas Reading competition



Congratulations to all the children in Reception and Year 1 who took part in a very special Christmas reading challenge. Over 15 children sent in pictures of them reading their reading book in front of either a Christmas tree or a Christmas decoration and had them uploaded onto Tapestry. I loved seeing all the Christmas trees and decorations – well done parents for embracing this competition. All the children who took part received a certificate and a



A huge thanks to everyone who volunteered and came to the annual Christmas fair. We raised a whopping £2276! We couldn't have done that without all of the parent and teacher helpers! In addition to that we also managed to raise an amazing £1275 from hamper raffle ticket sales. Well done to the winners and thank you to everyone who bought tickets.

Hamper winners were:

Reception – Parents of Lucie  
Year 1 – Parents of Edward  
Year 2 – Parents of Rose  
Year 3 – Parents of Mark  
Year 4 – Mrs Bullen  
Year 5 – Parents of Huey  
Year 6 – Parents of Olivia



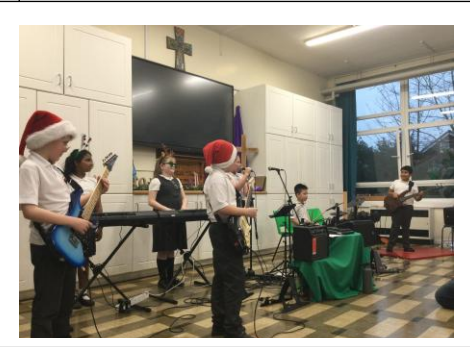
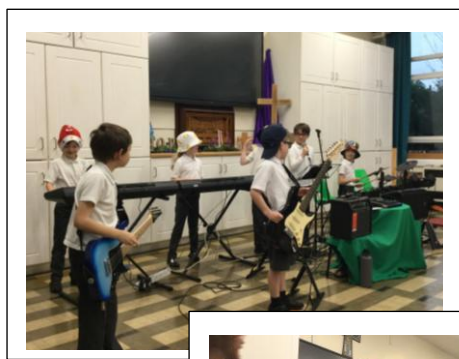
Final fundraising total for the autumn term is a MASSIVE **£6,575!**

A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to that total, it all goes towards our children. Merry Christmas to you all!



## Rock Steady Concert

It was another fantastic Rock Steady Concert with 8 bands all performing in front of the school and their families. If your child is interested in joining Rock Steady, please follow the link to sign them up and see the attached flyer: <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>



## Thank you from the Mini Vinnies



Our Mini Vinnies would like to say a great big thank you for supporting their Advent raffle. They raised a whopping £98.21 and this will be split between the charities Mind and the Caritas Good Shepherd Fund. Well done Mini Vinnies for giving up break times to sell tickets.

Congratulations to our winner, Marissa Cyriac!

## Nativity performance donations via Parent Pay

Thank you for your generous contributions to our appeal for Caritas and MIND- a total of 274.26 was raised which will be split between the two charities.

**Birthday Wishes!** Many happy returns for this week and during the holidays to:

LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS	LOOK WHO IS
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
Felix	Georgia	Charlie	Evelyn	Stanley Layla-Grace AraOluwa	Darcy Grace Ethan

<b>The Week Ahead</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>End Time</b>
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>		
D.R. Sports – Multi Sports (Y1-Y6) <a href="http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk">www.drsportsclubs.co.uk</a>	3:30pm	4:30pm
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
Mass – Epiphany – <b>EVERYONE WELCOME</b>	9:15am	
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
<b>ARTIS</b> performing arts workshops	ALL	DAY
D.R. Sports – Dodgeball/Basketball/Netball (Y1-Y6) <a href="http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk">www.drsportsclubs.co.uk</a>	3:30pm	4:30pm
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
<b>Y3 – Tatton Park School Trip</b>	ALL	DAY
<b>Rock Steady Music</b>	ALL	DAY
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
D.R. Sports – KS2 Football <a href="http://www.drsportsclubs.co.uk">www.drsportsclubs.co.uk</a>	3:30pm	4:30pm

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

## Pre- School Celebration

In celebration of thirty wonderful years of our Pre-school, they warmly invite parishioners, past staff, parents, and pupils who have moved on from St Vincent's Primary School to join them for a special evening marking three decades of nurturing young minds and building a loving community. The celebration will take place on **Friday 23rd January 2026 from 6.30pm to 8.30pm**, and they would be delighted to see you there as they reflect on thirty years of laughter, learning, and little footsteps. If you have any photographs or videos from your child's time in the Setting and are happy for them to be included in a slideshow or display, they would be very grateful to receive a copy.

Please contact Cath Davies (01565 651948 / [cath@stvincentspreschool.co.uk](mailto:cath@stvincentspreschool.co.uk)) if you plan to attend or would like further information. Children from the primary school will be visiting during lesson time in the week leading up to the event, so we kindly ask that they are not brought along on Friday evening.

## Children due to start Reception in September 2026

The closing date to make an application for a child to start primary school in September 2026 is Thursday 15th January 2025 – this is for children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022. Late applications may be disadvantaged. Parents who are unable to apply online can apply by telephone on 0300 123 5012. <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/start-school-september.aspx>



## Father David and St. Vincent's Church - Information

[St Vincent De Paul RC Church, Knutsford \(stvincentsknutsford.org\)](http://stvincentsknutsford.org)

**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.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** There will be a Vigil Mass at 5pm and Midnight Mass at 9pm preceded by Carols from 8.30pm on Christmas Eve – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December and Mass on Christmas morning- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December at 11am. In Lymm there will be a Vigil Mass at 7pm on Christmas Eve and Mass at 9am on Christmas Morning.

**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.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** - On Sunday at the 11 am Mass all children are warmly invited to take part and learn about the Gospel in a way that's fun and engaging. Mums and Dads are very welcome to come along and assist with their children as we share faith together as a parish family.

**ENQUIRY GROUP:** Please come along each Thursday evening at 7pm in the hall where we will explore our Catholic faith.

**CARITAS AT CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** Every penny given goes directly to help those most in need within our Diocese, providing crisis food vouchers, practical support, and the reassurance of care and compassion when it matters most. You may donate online at: [www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk](http://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk) or by using the QR Code on the Poster at the rear of Church.

**THE BOLLINGTON CAFOD FUN RUN** is back again, marking its 15<sup>th</sup> year on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> December. Details are on the poster at the rear of Church.

**Catenians' Children's Party – Sunday 18th January** The Catenians would once again like to invite the children of St. Vincent's school and parish to this year's children's party in the New Year. This year we are having a Neon Glow Party. It will be another fun packed afternoon of music, dance and games. This year the party will take place on Sunday 18th January, 2pm to 4pm, at Charlton Lodge on the Moor. The event, as always, is free for St. Vincent's children but there are limited places available so booking is essential at [events@knutsford.catenians.org](mailto:events@knutsford.catenians.org) It is open to all year 1 to year 6 pupils.