

# ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs A Harrop MEd NPQH  
Orchard Road  
Altrincham  
WA15 8EY

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10 December 2021

## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER


Dear Parents,

### ADVENT ACTIVITIES


It has been wonderful to see the Reception Class Nativity and Year 4 performance of 'Bethlehem' this week. We also watched a Year 6 assembly on Advent.


The children enjoyed their Christmas lunch on Thursday with a special visit from Father Christmas. We are now looking forward to the Year 6 Advent Service on 20 December at 6:30pm and the Christmas pantomime, which is taking place during the school day on Monday 20 December.

Please find the Wednesday Word for the Advent season attached which you can read as a family.

 Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Sunday 12 December






## Third Sunday of Advent

Today is the **Third Sunday of Advent**

**Luke 3: 10-18**  
In today's reading, people ask John the Baptist how to prepare for the coming of Jesus. He says that sharing is one of the most important things. If we share the light of Jesus we can see so much more! If we share the light of Jesus we can light up the whole world! How do you think we can share the light of Jesus with others?

Generous God,  
We thank you for all the good things that you have given us. Help us to follow the example of Jesus, to care for others and to bring good news to people living in poverty. Amen

Did you know today is Gaudete Sunday?  
We light the pink candle, representing joy.  
**How could you bring joy to others this Advent?**



### CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL

Thank you for your donations of toys and chocolate for the Salvation Army Toy Appeal. We will be delivering these on Monday to the Salvation Army in Sale ready to be distributed to families across Trafford and Manchester who are in need. Thank you to those parents who have offered to help deliver the donations.



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## CHRISTMAS MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA

Today we joined a number of schools online across Trafford to participate in the Winterganza Concert. This is part of our enrichment offer in music. Throughout the new Model Music Curriculum there is the recommendation that children experience live music. This concert gives our children the opportunity to hear and see live music being performed as well as taking part in singing and signing. This year there was an orchestra with new instruments to inspire our children.

The orchestra played a variety of festive music from a range of genres with opportunities for our children to join in throughout the concert – singing and signing songs such as Christmas Warm up Chant Round, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Jingle Bell Rock and the 12 Days of Christmas.

## PTA ONLINE CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Don't miss your last chance to buy tickets for the PTA online Christmas Raffle, hosted on Raffall. Tickets cost £1 each and you can buy as many as you would like. There are some great prizes to win including the 3 star prizes of £200, £100 and £50 cash! There are also vouchers for Gran T's, Mustard, M&S and Waterstones and 10 fabulous hampers packed with edible treats.

Tickets can be purchased via this link: <https://raffall.com/273732/enter-raffle-to-win-christmas-prizes-hosted-by-st-vincents-pta>

The raffle will be drawn online at 8pm this Saturday and prizes will be available to collect from school the following week. Please help us raise lots of money by sharing the link with your family and friends. Thank you for your support.

## ALTY GIVES BACK

We are delighted to be supporting Altrincham FC's 'Alty Gives Back' fundraising this year. The charity aims to provide some of the special treats we all like to enjoy at Christmas for local families in need.

If you can donate any of the items listed below, please bring them to school on Monday 13 December and they will be used to make up hampers and distributed locally.

- Chocolates
- Biscuits
- Sweets
- Hot Chocolate
- Christmas crackers
- Crackers
- Cakes



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## TRAFFORD HONG KONG WINTER SOLSTICE EVENT

This event will display and demonstrate some Hong Kong cultural activities, for example, calligraphy, chopsticks, faichuns, mahjong, and yuhahai. Participants can try to write their own calligraphy and faichuns, use chopsticks to move things, stack mahjong tiles, design their own red packet and learn some basic Hongkongese.

日期	2021年12月18日 (星期六)	Date	18th December 2021 (Sat)
時間	1:30pm - 4:00pm	Time	1:30pm - 4:00pm
地點	St. John's Centre (M16 7GX) - 近Trafford Bar及Old Trafford電車站 - 由於附近並無大型停車場，建議大家使用公共交通前往場地	Venue	St. John's Centre (M16 7GX) - Near Trafford Bar and Old Trafford Metrolink Station - Due to no public carpark nearby, using public transport is recommended
費用	全免	Fee	Free of Charge
語言	英語及香港語	Language	English and Hongkongese
留飛	Eventbrite (請參考QR code)	Ticketing	Eventbrite (Please refer to the QR code)

是次活動由 Trafford Council Inclusive Neighbourhoods Grants 贊助 This event is sponsored by the Inclusive Neighbourhoods Grants of Trafford Council

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Council has been working on their autumn newsletter which you can read [here](#).

The School Council will be welcoming the Mayor of Trafford, Councillor Laurence Walsh to school on 11 January, when he will be telling the children all about democracy and his role in Trafford.

## RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2022 APPLICATIONS

Trafford are accepting applications for Reception places until 15 January 2022. Please see the following guidance to help you in your application:

<https://www.trafford.gov.uk/residents/schools/school-admissions/Admissions.aspx>

<https://www.trafford.gov.uk/residents/schools/school-admissions/composite-prospectus/Primary/Introduction.aspx>

Catholic schools also require a supplementary form to be completed. **This must be submitted along with a copy of your child's baptismal certificate to the school office before 15 January 2022:** [Supplementary application form](#)



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Please contact our admin team if you have any questions about the process.

## HAVE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGED?

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be offered a free and healthy school lunch, known as Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) whether they are eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) or not. Even if your child receives UFSM, it is still important for the school to know whether eligibility exists for FSM as this may lead to additional school funding. Children in school years 3 to 6 will also be offered a free lunch if they meet certain criteria for FSM.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals; your child is eligible for free school meals if you are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guaranteed part of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as your annual gross income is £16,190 or less and you don't get Working Tax Credit)
- Working Tax Credit run-off after you come off Working Tax Credit

Universal Credit that you applied for on, or after, 1 April 2018. As long as your household income is less than £7,400 a year after tax, not including any benefits

Registering for Free School Meals could also raise an extra **£1,320** for your child's school to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities. This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

## ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS WEEK

Each week we report attendance. Please note we do not authorise holidays in term time.

Attendance Percentages	
Highest infant class attendance	Reception Miss Turnbull 98.6%
Highest junior class attendance	Year 3 Mrs Jennings/Mrs Needham 98.4%
Overall school attendance	95.4%

\*Please note that disability related absence is not taken into account when calculating best attendance

We aim to be a listening school and offer an open door to parents. Mrs Farrell (deputy head teacher based in the junior department), Mrs Tiernan (deputy head teacher based in the infant department), and I are very happy to answer any questions you may have.



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Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harrop

Headteacher

