# St Cuthbert \& The First Martyrs' Catholic Primary School 

Date: Tuesday $29^{\text {th }}$ November 2016

## Through the sign of the cross we follow Jesus

## Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners

We welcomed Father Gregory into school on Monday morning to bless our advent wreaths. Mrs
 Walsh began by introducing our advent theme; 'Find the silence through the noise'. This comes from a lovely hymn the children will be singing throughout the season of Advent where we are reminded that Advent is a season for prayer as we prepare our hearts and minds.

Some of our Year 6 pupils then read our Gospel reading and bidding prayers, before Father explained the meaning of advent. He reminded us that we wouldn't open our birthday presents early or have a party before our birthdays; similarly, we should not get too caught up in the excitement of Christmas and make sure we make time for prayer during this season of advent. After blessing the main school wreaths in the hall, Father then visited each class to chat with the children about advent and Christmas and to bless each class wreath too.

This Advent we are supporting The Gianna Project

The Gianna Project - 'When a Child is born' appeal. We are asking you to donate a practical item to a basket which will be available in school, to help these families during the baby's first year. Items can range from: nappies, nappy cream, bibs, baby shampoo, oil, baby bath or any similar small items.

As a school community we can really help people in our community this Advent and Christmas. Thank you in anticipation of your support.


## Mr D Copley, Mrs Walsh and Miss Burgess

## Year 2 Class Worship

Year 2's worship also took the theme of advent. The children modelled an advent wreath and explained the meaning of each candle: 3 are purple for forgiveness, 1 is pink for joy and happiness. The evergreen ring symbolises God's unending love. The children had designed and made their own 'human advent calendar' and showed this off in the worship. Behind each door was an action that the children could perform during advent, such as being kind to others, tidying up and helping their parents.

## Advent Fundraising

Here is a reminder that during Advent, our own Mini Vinnies group will be leading the fundraising for the school, and have taken the opportunity to support projects close to home.

- The Gianna Project: Last year we had many donations from families within our school community for the Gianna project. This project is run by Catholic Care and supports mums and babies in need, making sure the families have all the necessary supplies. As last year, an area in the foyer will be dedicated to donations of nappies, baby clothes, or anything else you can spare for this worthy cause.
- 'Reverse Advent Calendar' - this is a new idea to the school. The premise behind a normal Advent calendar is that you receive something every day - so a reverse Advent calendar means you GIVE something every day! In our case, we are hoping to collect food to donate to the food bank at the end of term. It will work by each child being given $\mathbf{1}$ day during Advent in which to bring 1 item in to school to go in a gift box from their class - and by the end of Advent, we should have a box per class full of food to go to less fortunate people around Bradford this Christmas.
- SVP Cold Weather Essential Packs - In the last few weeks the weather has definitely turned colder and this has meant the Mini Vinnies have been thinking about those who live on the streets, exposed to the elements. The St Vincent de Paul Society have a 'cold weather essentials pack' that is available to all those who are homeless - it contains thermal gloves, socks and hat, toothbrush and toothpaste, a blanket and an information sheet for help. They cost $£ 3$ each for the SVP to make and the Mini Vinnies are hoping to raise money for these this Advent. Please keep a look out around school for posters detailing the event we have planned for the near future!


# Our Statement to Live By this week: I think before I make choices that affect my health 

Events This Term

| Class | Event | Date | Time |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year 3 | Class Worship | Thurs 8 |  |
| th Dec | 9.10 am. Everyone invited. |  |  |
| Whole School | Christmas Lunch | Fri 9 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Dec | Lunchtime. |
| Nursery/Reception | Nativity | Tues 13 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Dec | 10.00 am. Everyone invited. |
| Years $\mathbf{1}$ \& 2 | Nativity | Thurs $15^{\text {th }}$ Dec | 2.00 pm. Everyone invited. |
| Years $\mathbf{5}$ \& 6 | Advent Carol Service | Mon 19 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Dec | 7.00 pm St Cuthbert's Church. <br> Everyone invited. |
| All Classes | Carols by the Crib | Tues 20 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Dec | 2.00 pm Everyone invited. |

Excellence in all we do. Outstanding every day.

| Attendance |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Attend Today Achieve Tomorrow | CLASS | \% ATTENDANCE TARGET | \% LAST WEEK w/b 21/11/2016 | \% ATTENDANCE this year to date |
|  | Reception | 97 | 97.59 | 96.35 |
|  | Year 1 | 97 | 97.14 | 97.50 |
| EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS | Year 2 | 97 | 91 | 95.28 |
|  | Year 3 | 97 | 95 | 96.48 |
|  | Year 4 | 97 | 97.50 | 97.69 |
| Can you reach our whole school target of $97 \%$ ? | Year 5 | 97 | 97.10 | 97.78 |
|  | Year 6 | 97 | 98.67 | 98.33 |
|  | Whole School | 97 | 96.28 | 97.05 |
|  | NEW TARGET | 97\% | 97\% | 97\% |

If we reach $\mathbf{9 7 \%}$ our attendance will be Outstanding. Over the last few years we have all worked tirelessly to improve attendance. Please help us reach our target!

Every week we look to celebrate excellence in all we do. Each class is collecting Gold Coins for their treasure chests and the winners each week will receive a prize!

| Celebration Worship Leaderboard |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year Group | Class Pirate Name |  |
| Nursery: | Mini Skulls |  |
| Reception: | Little Treasures |  |
| Year 1: | Scurvy Landbubbers |  |
| Year 2: | Broken Bones |  |
| Year 3: | Plank Walkers |  |
| Year 4: | Deadly Fours |  |
| Year 5: | Miss Dobson's Daaarrrlins |  |
| Year 6: | Shiver My Sixers |  |

## Congratulations to:

Audric Bavukiye, Eloisa Dacanay, Malachy Philip, Erin Kelby, Joshua Gutman, Nella Chang, Melvin Dzeamesi and Alicianna Fadrilan who were awarded Class Merits for their outstanding achievements for last week in our Celebration Worship last Friday.


If your child has achieved something outside of school we will celebrate their achievements in our special Celebration Worship. However, due to all the children being so unbelievably talented we celebrate this on the last Friday in the month.

## Class Treat

Well done to Years 1 and 4 who last year won the most gold coins. They had a brilliant time at the cinema watching Frozen.

## Greek Day

Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed their Green experience last week. They had the opportunity to look at Greek artifacts, try on Greek armour and even eat some Greek food!

## Christmas Disco

Thank you to those parents who have come forward to help organise the Christmas Disco for the children. This is to be held on Friday $\mathbf{1 6}^{\text {th }}$ December 2016. Flyers will be sent out this Friday with all the details. Although we have had a significant donation of tombola prizes from one of our parents, we are still looking for some more to make this event a great success. We would also like donations for the Raffle.

## School Christmas Lunch

Our Christmas lunch will be next Friday $\mathbf{9}^{\text {th }}$ December. Children and staff can come to school in their Christmas jumpers.

## Red Wednesday

Thank you to everyone who took part in Red Wednesday. A total of $£ 185.50$ was raised. This donation will go towards supporting those who have suffered because of their religion and to stand up against religious persecution and make a stand for peace.

Find out more at www.acnuk.org/redwednesday \#RedWednesday
Please visit the Friends Facebook page https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=424388321072615

