



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

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We started our week reminding ourselves of the message of joy that Gaudete Sunday brings us and we certainly have seen much happiness around the school this week. The children have shared their beautiful Nativity performances with us and we have all smiled. I am sure you will do the same as you watch them from your homes. It certainly has been a busy and different term but the children's unflinching resilience has shone through. Thank you for all your kind gifts; I know the staff are very grateful for your support and well wishes as I am. Have a truly peaceful and blessed Christmas and I look forward to seeing you in 2021.

*Mrs A M Kendal, Head of School*

**“This is the meaning of Christmas. If the Lord continues to come among us and give us the gift of His Word, it is so that each of us can respond to this call: to become saints in love”.**

- Pope Francis

**New Year New Idea!** We invite you to send in a picture of a unique construction you make over Christmas on the theme of 'recycling'. This could be made from packaging materials, wool, fabric, lego etc. You may use new hobby skills or old ones! It should be a unique creation from your own ideas (not following a pattern or given instruction). It could involve recycling waste e.g. reusing fabric; or it could be about encouraging others to recycle something e.g. a lego scene. Parents, please email in pictures to the home learning email address and indicate if you are happy for the picture to be shared on our website. A winner and runner up will be chosen to receive a book related to your construction / recycling.

**Poems:** Please listen to the Performance Poems that the children have prepared for you. These are available on our class pages on the school website and are also being played to patients on the wards at Princess Alexandra Hospital.

**Nativity:** We have prepared some beautiful performances for you to watch on the restricted area of our website. Thank you to Miss Linden for all her work organising and preparing the children for this.

**Pupil of the Week:** Pupils who gained a certificate this week are:

- Year R – Freddie
- Year 1 – Dawson
- Year 2 – Ysabelle
- Year 3 – Scarlett-Louise
- Year 4 – Thomas
- Year 5 – Maria
- Year 6 – Jaleesa



**House Points:** Well done to **St Bernadette!**

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| St Francis – 120   | St Bernadette - 125 |
| St Anne Line – 111 | St Thomas More- 123 |
| St Theresa – 103   | St Paul – 118       |

**Book Recommendation:** Reception class are recommending this week “There's a Shark in the Bath” by Sarah McIntyre.

What would you do if there was a shark in your bath? What if there were three?! Will Dulcie ever be able to enjoy her bath in peace or will she find ways to get rid of these pesky visitors? Reception laughed the whole way through this story and even thought of some imaginative ways to outwit the sharks too.

**Magic Breakfast:** As you know over the last year we have been provided with free bagels for all children as they arrive at school. This has been very popular at St Luke's and the children really enjoy it. Regrettably, the funding from the government has now finished for this scheme. We believe it is important to sustain and so will continue, funded by the school. We are applying for sustainability grants and if you have any contacts that you feel may help us or indeed are able to sponsor this please contact Mrs Kendal.

**COVID-19 and Christmas Holidays:** If over the holidays, your child, yourself or a member of your family become ill with Covid 19 – please email the school or leave a voice message. These will be monitored, by the Heads of School and Mr Kendal, throughout the holiday (including Christmas day).

**Mini-Vinnies:** Well done to the Mini-Vinnies who wrote an excellent letter to our MP, Robert Halfon to make him aware how remote learning can be difficult if you do not have access to the technology or data. He has relied and is taking their plight to parliament. Look on the Believe, Belong Become page to find out details.

**Community Embrace UK:** The Mini Vinnies and Chaplaincy virtually visited this charity at Great Parndon Community Centre. They support many people within our community on a weekly basis supplying food and basic necessities to those who require it. Our mission team came up with excellent questions to ask.

**Twitter:** Please don't forget to find us on Twitter @stlukesHarlow to see some wonderful activities our children have been up to.



**Upcoming Dates:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> January – Inset day
- 5<sup>th</sup> January – Children return to school
- 26<sup>th</sup> February – Individual & Class Photos

**St Luke's would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and healthy New Year.**

