

Advent Crib Journey

As Advent approaches we would like to mark the season of preparation for Christmas by sending our school Crib out on its journey to mirror that of Mary and Joseph as they travelled to Bethlehem.

We would like to involve as many of the children as possible and so invite you and your family to take our crib set home for one night during Advent. We will provide prayers which could be said as a family around the crib. We will make sure that each class is represented on the Advent journey of the crib set, but it is vital that you return it each morning so that the next family can have the figures. If you would like to look after the crib figure for an evening, please email rsherry@stvincent.herts.sch.uk, or, send a note in via the office.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Thank you so much for all the donations- it is never too late to contribute! Whatever you can offer will be passed on to a grateful family. Ideas include: TINNED MEALS such as Chicken in sauce, Chilli con carne; TINNED MEATS such as Ham; TINNED FISH including Tuna, Pilchards, Salmon; TINNED VEGETABLES; CUPBOARD STAPLES, DRINKS AND BREAKFASTS and TOILETRIES

Every donation makes a difference to an individual or family

Musical.ly has a new name - TikTok (Safer Internet Centre)

The social network app Musical ly has often given adults cause for concern, because of the way that children use it to generate and share their own short videos and lip sync to popular audio clips. The app has a new name and new features, and now includes live streaming. Although the app has an age-limit of 13 years old, in practice there will be younger children using it, and the content may not be suitable.

Profiles on TikTok are automatically set to public, so that any content you post can be seen by anyone within the app. There is also a Restricted Mode which can help to filter out inappropriate content and prevent the user from being able to start their own live streams

You can find out more here: https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/what-tiktok-looking-latest-lip-syncing-app

££££££ Have you heard of the Stevenage Credit Union? For people. Not profit £££££££

At this busy time of the year when spending is on everyone's minds, take a moment to explore the work of a local financial initiative which offers an alternative approach to financial management. Stevenage Credit Union was established in 1995 by a group of local people in the community, with the support of Stevenage Borough Council. Credit Unions are worldwide movement of not-for-profit co-operatives. They offer a real alternative way to save or borrow, providing low cost personal loans, easy ways to save and free life insurance.

Credit Unions operate by using members' savings to make loans to members. The interest from the loans offsets the cost of running the Credit Union and depending on how much surplus they make, pay an annual dividend (interest payment) to all members. **Stevenage Credit Union offers a real** alternative to high street banks and other lenders providing members with modern services like those offered by high street banks based on the principles of ethical saving, borrowing and information on financial management.

Credit Unions are authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority.

In England, Scotland and Wales, some 1,290,545 people are using credit unions, including 136,491 junior depositors, all of whom have recognised the value of Credit Unions. These Credit Unions hold deposits of £1.25 billion and have loans out totalling £803 million. There are thousands employed in the sector and many more thousands are volunteers. **Credit Unions are not for profit savings and loans co-operatives where people can save at a level to suit themselves and borrow at a reasonable rate of interest. Every Credit Union is owned and controlled by its members.**

Values and Principles Stevenage Credit Union has been keen to ensure that its members, partners and stakeholders share its values and principles: -

Members first - every person who joins the Credit Union is an owner and has a say in the running of the organisation by attending the Annual General Meeting.

Democracy - every member has one vote and will only have one vote irrespective of how much money they have in their savings.

Participation - members are encouraged to take an active part in, and to develop a genuine interest in, the management of the Credit Union.

Self-help - training and education of members in the wise use of money and the management of their finances.

Equality - we treat all our members fairly and equally, regardless of who they are and where they come from.

Integrity - ensuring that the Credit Union abides by the legislative framework of rules.



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