

st Neots **St Neots St Neot**

Christmas Hampers! In December, **Longsands Academy** students donated food as part of a 'reverse advent calendar'. An incredible 628.52kg of food with an estimated value of £1200 was delivered to the Foodbank in over 50 hampers, which had been seasonally decorated by the students, including cards of best wishes for the well-being of the recipients. Thank you to the students and staff for their generosity!





And very well done Johan for organising a reverse advent calendar food collection at Crosshall Junior School! (Johan is pictured right alongside Foodbank Trustee Dr David Pacini)

Foodbank Facts and Figures:

Thanks to the very generous support of people of all ages in St Neots and the surrounding villages, we have been able to provide food to an increasing number of local people who find themselves in crisis. Between April 2016 and March 2017 we fed 1015 people with 3 day parcels of food. From the beginning of April 2017 until the 12th December we fed 1000 people and gave out almost 170 Christmas Hampers.

IN OTHER NEWS

<u>During December:</u> Money received

We participated in the Waitrose green token community fund, Round Table Santa Sleigh Run, and have also received a number of very generous donations from businesses and individuals (almost £2,000).

Food received

The Foodbank received more than double our usual collections of food for which we are extremely grateful and enabled us to make up and distribute the Christmas hampers. This included 2 classes from **Crosshall Junior School doing reverse** advent calendars, over 1.2 tonnes from our Tesco 3 day national food collection and 1.7 tonnes from our supermarket drop boxes (Tesco, Waitrose and Co-op). We also received donations from many individuals, churches and businesses including Tilbrook Village, MASS, Clarity Appointments, St Neots Ladies' Golf Club, Peppercorns Performing Arts Academy, Perry Womens' Institute, Premier Global, Kier Group, Nat West, Style Guru, Teleos, Pico Technology, Eaton Socon Cubs, Life Save Group, Bohemia and Barfords.

Quality Assurance Visit



St Neots Foodbank is part of a national network of foodbanks affiliated to the Trussell Trust Charity. Jo Stevenson is the Trussell Trust Area Manager for the East of England and has a very important role in ensuring that Foodbanks operate safely, efficiently and within the terms of their charitable remit. Jo does this by conducting annual *Quality* Assurance Visits to each foodbank (rather like Ofsted in schools). The latest visit in October again produced successful once very outcomes, with Jo commenting that "The foodbank continues to be exceptionally wellmanaged... the warehouse is incredibly well organized...and effective governance continues to be in place".

Pictured is Jo Stevenson (centre) with Rona and Adrienne at the Foodbank Warehouse.

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