

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Newsletter March 2024



During this Lenten season we have been working to understand and to be open to the power of God's promise; to know his love and to use that to give us the courage to act as positive people.

This season of reflection gives us the time to reflect on our actions and if they would pass the Jesus as role model test.

Palm Sunday Service Reception and Key Stage 1 in church

We were delighted to have our Holy Week in school kick started by this special service. Our youngest children share with us through readings and song the events of Palm Sunday. Year 2 were responsible for the readings. Reception and Year 1 were all on the altar area by themselves, with a few promptings from their teachers to stand, sit, remember when to have their palm leaves and when not to. Everyone of them behaved as exceptional role models and sang and shared actions with great enthusiasm.

Holy Week in school

This week each morning Year 3, 4, 5 and 6, will lead us in school through Holy Week inviting us to reflect on the joys, the sorrows and the love that run through these events.

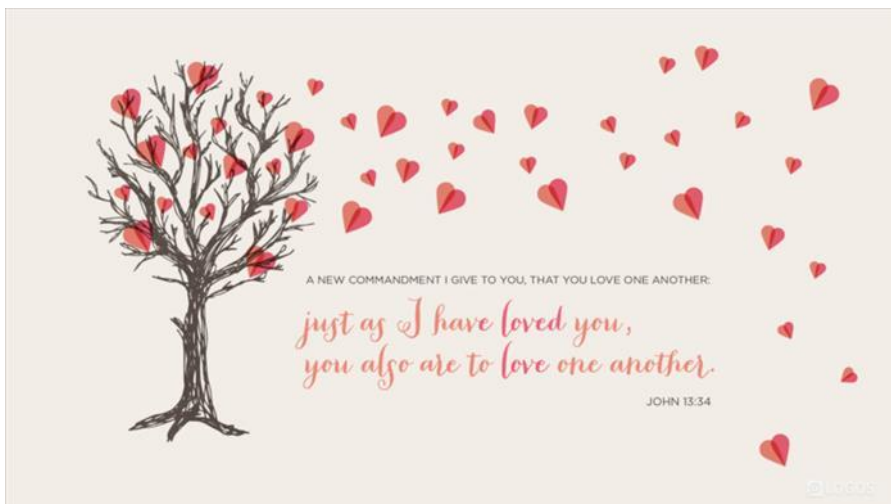
Monday Year 3 The Last Supper

Tuesday Year 4 The Garden of Gethsemane

Wednesday Year 5 The Stations of the Cross

Thursday Year 6 The Resurrection.

This season has been a strong focus for us to encourage positive action and reconciliation so that we can move forward in the hope and joy of the Easter season taking with us the important message from Jesus:



Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Newsletter March 2024

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

As Catholics Jesus challenges us to be aware of what is happening around us, to make up our minds about what we see, using Scripture as a guide, and then to commit to an action.

See

What do you see?
What is happening?
Who is being effected?
What is this doing to the people/earth?
What is this happening?

Judge

What would Jesus do?
What does Scripture, and Catholic Social Teaching say about this?
What do you think should happen?

Act

How can you make this world a better place?
What do you want to change?
What actions can you take to start this change?
Who can you ask to help or be involved to help?


Be the change you wish to see
Gandhi

Our Catholic Values are a part of every moment of every day in our school. Next term children will be accessing CAFOD workshops on Catholic Social Teaching. These are rooted in scripture and represent so much of the wisdom on ways to live good lives for ourselves and each other.

We learn that being people of faith does not hold us in a special protective bubble away from the challenge and hurt of life. The life of Jesus is testament to that.

What we learn is that God is with us.

We teach and live that we are there for each of the children.

Living as a person of faith is not sappy. It involves being alert to injustice, to being open to new learning, to being slow to anger and quick to forgive. People of true faith are optimistic in the face of challenge and work to look beyond their own needs to consider the wider needs of their community.

We seek to create a trusting community with children able to be the best for themselves and each other; and then if they do get it wrong to lean into the resources of the school and move on with increased skill and confidence.

Social emotional learning, falling out and bullying

Children are all developing. They are works of art, learning at all times. Some children are blessed with calm and giving attitudes, some are more springy. When they operate from their hurt they may make the wrong choice. They will need guidance and support with this. Falling out is not the same as bullying. This is sustained

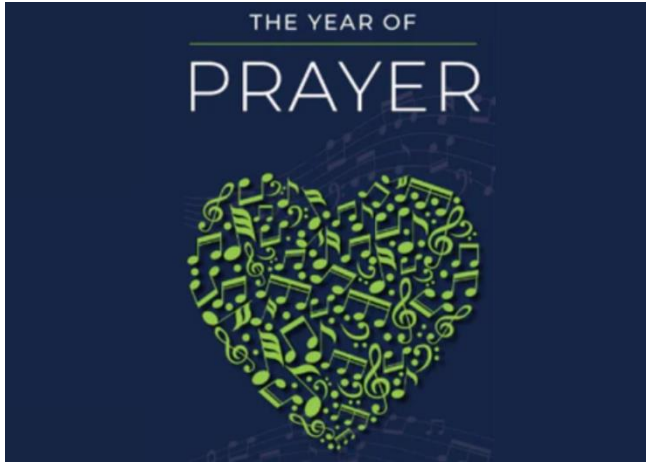
and intentional, targeted hurt. Most often children will hurt each other because they are stuck and don't know what to do. Like all areas of learning they need ongoing support and guidance with this. We do teach that if someone makes a wrong choice it does not give you the right to make one back again. This is not the same as letting people get away with wrong choices. This is an ongoing journey for children.

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Newsletter March 2024

Catholic Social Teaching is the foundation of these principles. For further information follow the link : <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/catholic-social-teaching>

Father Frank Reflections



Father has been working with each class group to develop their own understanding of prayer and ways to reflect.

This half term he has been hosting class reflections in church at 2.40 pm and inviting families. This week will complete this journey. Please do attend if you can

Tuesday Reception and Year 1

Wednesday Year 2

Thursday Year 4

Football and Football League Update

Year 5 and 6 boys took part in the first of their league matches last week against away at Gateway Academy. New team, new kit, new experience we set off from school via minibus feeling nervous and excited.

Our team were initially very tested with two of the Gateway team powering forwards and scoring 4 goals one after the other. Our team did not give up. They pulled together, remained positive and began to score. The final score 8 to 5 against us was a small part of the story. Our team were determined and hard working. They were a credit to our school.

Football has so much potential to build skills and confidence as well as positive team attitudes and resilience so we will be continuing to seek ways to build football for boys and girls across the school. Despite efforts to introduce other sports football is important to many of our children and we are looking forward to building on the work of the last two terms to continue to build opportunities.

Pre Loved Clothing



A reminder that we have a stock of good quality school uniform that has been donated by parents. These items have been washed by us and then made available for you. They are in the corridor right next to the KS2 entrance. As the weather improves we plan to station them in the playground. These items can be purchased for a small voluntary donation to Cafod which can be given in at the office.

Please do make use of this if you can.

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Newsletter March 2024

Ducklings

As part of Year 5's science topic, 5 duckling eggs arrived with them on Monday last week, and all 5 successfully hatched by Tuesday. The class are enjoying looking after the ducklings and monitoring their growth each day, and all children will have the chance to visit them in class before they go home on Thursday this week. We have been careful to select an ethically responsible farm – Incredible Eggs, who are established and reputable poultry breeders and conservationists and have the facilities in place to responsibly home all hatched birds at the end of the experience.

A midsummer Night's Dream

Year 4 and 5 travelled to The Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford on Thursday last week to watch the RSC perform A Midsummer Night's Dream. All children thoroughly enjoyed the trip, and we are very grateful that as a lead associate school the tickets and coach travel were fully funded by the RSC.

Our School Young Elephant for The Elmer Trail



Our completed elephant was returned to Brian House to be added to the Elmer Trail for Brian House. Since then we have had suggestions and votes for our elephant's name. Last Friday we had a non-uniform day for Brian House and in school every child voted for the shortlisted names : Barney, Dottie and Cookie.

It was very close between Dottie and Cookie but the final vote went to Dottie.

Location, Location, Location

Another exciting update is that the route for the trail which will see 37 Young Elmers accompanying 32 large Elmer sculptures on display across Blackpool.

Dottie will be located **inside Hampton By Hilton** alongside 2 Young Elmers.

The trail begins through Blackpool on Saturday 13th April and will last for eight weeks.

We will share more details of this special trail as soon as they are shared.

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Newsletter March 2024

Car Park and Safety – A community responsibility

Many families will be aware of the national issue of school parking. We appreciate that drop off and pick up are very busy times and that particularly on rainy days there is extra parking pressure however we are receiving increasing reports of careless driving as parents turn into or leave Thornhill Close just outside the school gates.

Reports have included parking right outside the gate so blocking the area for our children and families, driving too fast, not stopping so adults have had to pull back their children from the road.

We recognise that parents are busy and that there are a lot of pressures but safety of our children and families has to be a priority.

We have also had some reports of parking that affects our neighbours. Our families have chosen to block drives and block cars in raising concerns that neighbours cannot get to appointments. We are grateful to those families that are thoughtful when parking and encourage all families to support the safety and care for our families and the local community.

IMPORTANT - Forward Planning – Thornhill Close- IMPORTANT- IMPORTANT

Thornhill Close is a private road and from Easter signage will identify that parking is for **residents only**. If you do park in this area then you are asked to consider and prepare now and over Easter for this change.

Water Water Water

School provide every child with an individual water bottle and access to water as well as a carton of milk each day. Increasingly children are bringing in individual water bottles and also bringing in juice not water.

Please support this process. If your child is thirsty they will drink water in school despite their home behaviours.

Home Tasks for the Holidays

Please do reasonably keep up reading, comprehension, spelling, handwriting and times tables activities over the holidays wherever possible. Reading is an investment in your child's success forever.



Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School Newsletter March 2024



We wish you a safe, happy and holy Easter season and look forward to welcoming children back for the summer term.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 28th March – break up at 3.10/3.15pm

Tuesday 9th April - school reopens 8.45am

Mon 15th-Fri 19th April – Year 6 residential visit to Water Park

Mon 13th-Thur 16th May – Year 6 SATs week

Friday 24th May – break up for half term 3.10/3.15pm