

ST JOSEPH'S LENTEN JOURNEY

At this time of year, we have been spending time preparing ourselves for Easter. During Lent, we fast, pray and give to become better people and to be closer to God.

We have thought closely about the idea of giving alms. We should not only try to 'give up', but also 'give to'. We can give to the poor, give God our hearts and give others our time and resources.

Lent is a time where we prepare to celebrate the great feast of Easter by looking at our lives and trying to see how we can follow God more closely.

This special time also allows us to walk with Christ and share his last journey on Earth.



During our End of Term Mass, Father John shared the idea of showing love to everyone during Lent. We learnt that loving those we may not be close to and not expecting something in return, is far more special and allows us to live in God's way.

But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Luke 6: 27-28,32-36

PRAYERS THIS TERM:

OUR SCHOOL PRAYER

St. Joseph's is our school.

Teach us Lord, to Love, Learn and
Grow together.

Just as you guided your beloved son,
Jesus.

Open our hearts to your plans for us and

Show us your path to follow.

Each day, help us to feel your
presence among us,

Protecting us on our journey.

Holy Spirit be with us.

St. Joseph pray for us.

Amen



**I want to follow in your
footsteps
because I trust in you.
Slowly I discover your path
and I move forward,
keeping my eyes fixed on
you.**



FAITH LEADER'S MONTHLY PRAYER

Dear Lord,

We thank you for all those who sacrificed their lives for others. Thank you for welcoming into your arms all martyrs who have given their lives because they refused to stop sharing the gospel and living out their faith by loving you. Heal the hearts and minds of those who have lost loved ones because of persecution. Many lives have been improved by martyrs and we will never forget them.

Amen

YEAR 3 & 4 PASSION PLAY

Lower Key Stage Two put on a wonderful and reverent Passion Play. It is extremely special sharing these moments with families and the parish. The children spoke clearly and the singing was spectacular. Watching Jesus carry his cross was a very heartfelt moment. Thank you to all the staff for preparing the play.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION & END OF TERM MASS

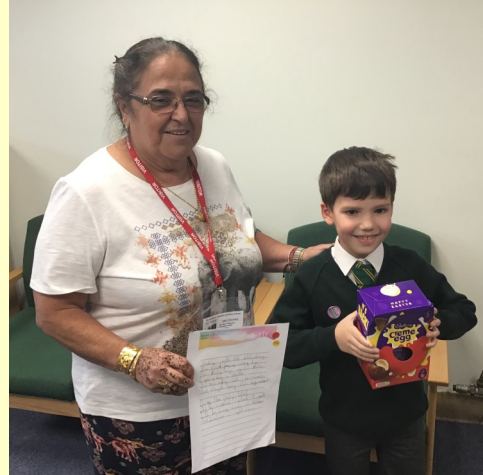
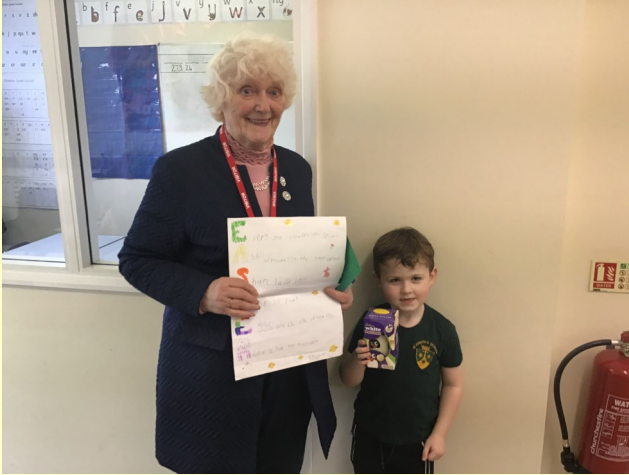
Father John and Father Jerome visited Year 4, 5 and 6 for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. The children thought about what they wanted forgiveness for and shared The Act of Contrition with the priests.



Our End of Term Mass was a wonderful celebration of the term. All the children entered the church beautifully and participated well in the Mass. We once again thank the parish and our priests for allowing us to celebrate in the church and regularly visiting the children at school.

EASTER POEM COMPETITION

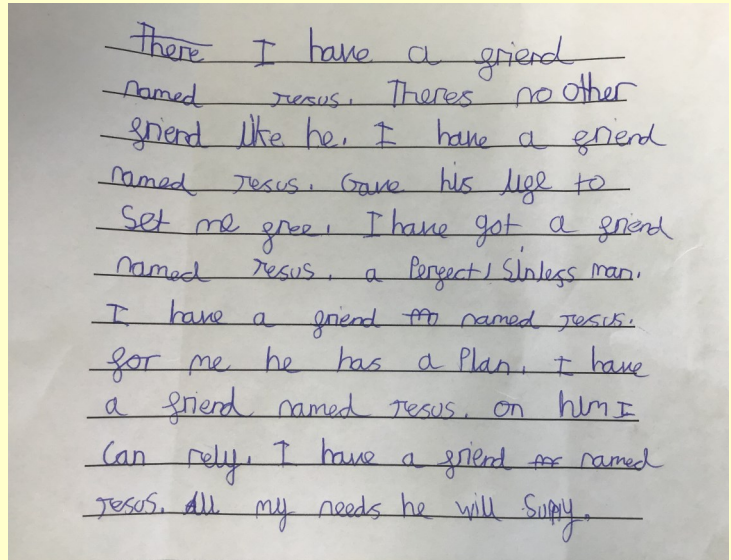
Father John, Mrs Jacobson, Mr Robinson and Mrs Robinson joined us in the last week of term to judge our Easter Poem Competition. All the children created beautiful poems about the real meaning of Easter. We had acrostic poems, haikus, limericks and free verse poetry. It was such a difficult decision, but well done to our winners from KS1 and KS2.



KS1

Liam

Edan



KS2

Annabelle

Emmarina

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

As part of our Lenten Journey we visited the prayer garden to walk the Stations of the Cross as a class. Each station allowed each individual to carry out a task which represented a stage of Jesus' journey. We shared pieces of Scripture and prayers. The children learnt so much from this experience and were able to grow spiritually.



"We washed our hands to show we were washing away our sins."



"We wrote a thank you card for someone that has helped us. Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus."



"The cross was really hard for Jesus to carry. I wrote down what I find difficult."



"Some people wanted the best for Jesus. We wrote our own wish for the world."

"We thought about if we could measure the love Jesus showed."



"I really enjoyed being able to do something at each station."

"It made me think about how difficult it was for Jesus and he never complained."

"We have to remember to say thank you to Jesus because he suffered for us."



"We each put a stone in the tomb."



"We had a moment of silence when we thought about Jesus on the cross in pain."

CHARITY WORK

Throughout Lent, we have had different fundraisers happening within the school. Individuals, children, staff, and parents have all helped others in need, reminding us of the love at St Joseph's.

YEAR 6 CHARITY DAY

Year 6 have been busy this term, planning and preparing their stalls for Charity Day. The whole school and parents were able to visit and contribute to the fundraising for different charities.

All the efforts resulted in a grand total of £700. This money will be shared amongst the chosen charities, including: Cancer Research, Red Cross, WWF and Toy Box.



SU, YEAR 6

A huge well done to Su who raised over £200 for Cancer Research by selling her handmade bracelets.



CAFOD

This Lent, we have been continuing to Walk the Mile while raising money for CAFOD.

So far we have funded enough to provide a fisherman with essential equipment.

Our JustGiving page will close at the end of Lent. Any sponsorship money you wish to still pay can be donate through:

<https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-josephs-big-lent-walk957>



ON BEHALF OF EVERYONE AT ST. JOSEPH'S
WE WISH YOU A HAPPY AND HOLY EASTER.

