

Catholic Life at St George and St Teresa

March 2025



St Patrick's Day

The children (and staff) looked great on Monday as we celebrated St Patrick's Day.



Year 5 at Mass

Well done to Year 5 who led 8.45 Mass last Sunday so well. It was lovely to see them join up with the younger children at Children's Liturgy.



Creation Family God's Life

Responsibilities Option Vulnerable



Cafod

Chris and Sheila from CAFOD visited school on Thursday to share with the children what CAFOD does, who they help and how we can help them with their Big Lenten Walk. Thank you!



Father John in School

EYFS hosted Father John on Thursday, celebrating a liturgical service with him dedicated to St Patrick.

Next week, he will be celebrating a liturgical service with Year 1 and conferring the Sacrament of Reconciliation on children from Year 3 for the first time. Please pray for the children in Year 3 receiving the sacrament.

Vocations Day—20th May

We're looking for volunteers! Would you be able to spend some time from your day coming in to talk to the children about your career?

If you can, please contact the office to let us know.

Fairtrade

The children at Dragons have been working really hard to create our egg for this amazing trail. Can you guess what the Egg is called? It also has some super powers that might save our planet! Make sure you diary the

Neurodiversity Week

During Neurodiversity Week (this week), the children have been thinking about how we're each made in the image and likeness of God, but we're all very different. They learned about how we can recognise the strengths and talents that having dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia, ADHD, autism and Tourette's Syndrome can give to people and why these differences should be celebrated. Go to <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/> to find out more.



Headteacher's award

Nursery: Sebby
Reception: Felix
Year 1: Cillian
Year 2: Teddy
Year 3: Aviana
Year 4: Hugo
Year 5: Kimie
Year 6: James



Attentive and Discerning award

Nursery: Liam
Reception: Luke
Year 1: Keava
Year 2: Ted
Year 3: Dot
Year 4: Caoimhe
Year 5: Lucy
Year 6: Zoe



St Teresa's Little Way award



Nursery: Oshi
Reception: Izzie
Year 1: Callie
Year 2: Henry
Year 3: Cillian
Year 4: Oscar
Year 5: Orla
Year 6: Francesca

Music award



Nursery: Saoirse
Reception: Barney
Year 1: Lucy
Year 2: Rupert
Year 3: Bradley
Year 4: Jacob
Year 5: Gabriel
Year 6: Bethan

It was lovely to see so many family members come in to school on Thursday to share lunch with the children. Family and Community are key tenets we try to teach our children. They really enjoyed it and were delighted to show the adult how things are done at school.



Reconciliation

Many congratulations to Year 3 who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Wednesday. Father John was very impressed by their reverence, knowledge and thoughtfulness throughout.



Bikeability

Bikeability for Year 5 next week!



Reminder

Mini-Vinnies Bake Sale

Huge congratulations and thanks to our Mini-Vinnies who came up with the idea of a bake sale to support Father Hudson's Caritas. They then presented to all the other children in school, telling them what was happening and why we were doing it. Today, we had our bake sale. A tasty way to help. Huge thanks to everyone who supported by bringing in so many delicious baked goods.



loving hopeful
attentive curious
faith-filled learned wise
generous eloquent grateful
intentional discerning
compassionate
truthful active



Human Dignity Rights
Community Participation Solidarity
Care Creation Family Option Responsibilities
God's Life Option Vulnerable

This half term, the children are focussing on the virtues of **attentive** to their experience and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

Our Catholic Social Teaching focus this half-term is for the option for the **poor and vulnerable**.

This reminds us of God's preferential love for the poorest and most vulnerable people. God's love is universal.

The latest Wednesday Word is available at <https://www.paperturn-view.com/forgiveness?pid=MTA101634&v=171.5>



Father John in School

As well as conferring the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Year 3, Father John came in on Thursday for a service with Year 1 themed on the tax-collector, Zacchaeus, whom they have been learning about in RE.



Welcome the Stranger

The children at school had a visit from the 'Welcome the stranger' team. Refugees seeking sanctuary shared their stories and the children listened. This has had a big impact, with many children seeking to do more to help.



MASS TIMES THIS WEEK AT ST GEORGE AND ST TERESA

9th March — 1st Sunday of Lent

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.45am (Children's Liturgy—please come along as a family).

10.30am

Dear Parents/Carers,

Lent

The liturgical season of Lent began on Wednesday. EYFS and Year 1 had a service in school to think more about this important time and receive their ashes from Father John. Years 2- 6 went to church and joined in this special occasion with other members of our parish community. The children have been thinking about how they can live the message of Easter prayer, fasting and alms giving.



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This reminds us of God's preferential love for the poorest and most vulnerable people. God's love is universal.

The latest Wednesday Word is available at <https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/lent?pid=MTA101634&v=168.5>



Father John in School

Year 3 held a special service with Father John last week helping prepare for Lent. There were two services for Ash Wednesday—one at church and one in school.

St Chad's Sanctuary

Some children from Year 5 visited St Chad's Sanctuary in Birmingham with Mrs Flanagan. They learned about some of the challenges facing refugees in our area and also some of the things we can do to help. Watch this space...

Vocations Day—20th May

We're looking for volunteers! Would you be able to spend some time from your day coming in to talk to the children about your career?

If you can, please contact the office to let us know.

Rare Disease Day

Friday 28th February was Rare Disease Day. The children have been learning about some rare diseases, the impacts they have, and how we can all advocate for the 3.5 million people in the UK who have rare diseases.

Visit from Chief Exec

Peter Davis, Chief Executive of Our Lady and All Saints MAC, came to visit our School Council to discuss what school was like at St G&T—what do we do well and what could we do even better. He was blown away by the children's ideas and questions, especially their desire to make difference.



February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,



Year 6 Confirmation

Massive congratulations to the children from Year 6 who received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop David Evans on Sunday January, 26th. The children prepared so reverently and impressed the Bishop with their answers to his questions as well as their conduct on the day.



Fortune Cookies!
Luck winners of Debbie's fortune cookie prizes were:
Angelina, Flynn,
Luisa and Henry.
Congratulations!



Kung Hei Fat Choi

Mrs Hailstone-Li delivered a whole school assembly, sharing some customs and traditions of the Lunar New Year.
#YearOfTheSnake

Mental Health Awareness Week

All of the children got involved in activities this week to learn about and reflect upon their mental health. The theme was: *Know Yourself, Grow Yourself.*

[Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week - Official site](#)

Our Year of Jubilee was officially launched on Friday, January 24th. As Pilgrims of Hope, we all walked through the school's new Holy Door to symbolise the start of our journey.



Year 6 children had a reflective retreat with One Life Music as they thought about the impact of Confirmation.



Father John in School

After supporting Bishop David in the Year 6 Confirmation Mass, Father John came to school to celebrate a thanksgiving Mass for Year 6 last Thursday.

16th February — 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.45am (Children's Liturgy—please come along as a family).

Youth SVP cake sale after Mass!

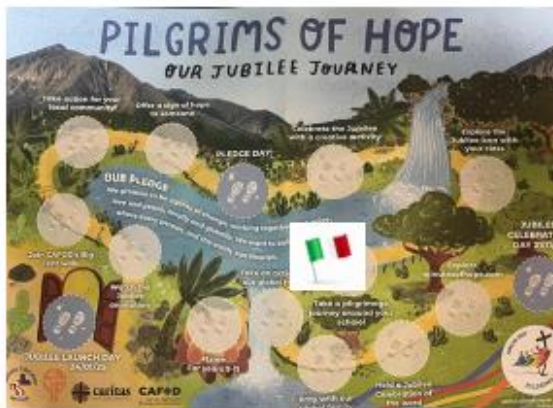
10.30am



PILGRIMAGE SPECIAL

ROME WASN'T BUILT IN A DAY BUT WE HAD A PILGRIMAGE TO THERE ON WEDNESDAY

On Wednesday, along with all of our other MAC primary schools, we went on a 'pilgrimage to Rome'. This was part of our Jubilee Year activities. Our pilgrims of hope learned about Rome, the Trevi Fountain, Pope Francis, the Vatican City, the Sistine Chapel, Roman art and architecture. They built a map of the Vatican City, tasted Italian food and produced some lovely artwork.



Reminder

School is closed next week for half-term and the following Monday for INSET.



Best wishes,

Mrs Flanagan and Mr Hainie





Our Pilgrimage!





Our Pilgrimage!





Our Pilgrimage!





This half term, the children are focussing on the virtues **grateful** and **generous**: **grateful** for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and **generous** with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.



Our Catholic Social Teaching focus this half-term are **rights and responsibilities**.



We learn about our rights and also our responsibilities towards others. We act with courage and determination to empower everyone to have their say.

The latest Wednesday Word is available at <https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/holiday-booklet?pid=MTA101634&v=167.5>

Year 3 committed to their preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion at their enrolment Mass on Sunday. Their reading, singing and responses were a real credit to them. Well done, Year 3!



Father John in School

Father John visited school today to teach children in year 4 and 5 about the sacrament of Baptism.

Message from Father John

Dear Parents,

Last Sunday we had a Sunday Mass to mark the Enrolment of the children (and parents) who made their commitment to God for the preparation for the Sacrament of Holy Communion. There was a good atmosphere in the church. Everyone said how well the children did with reading the Word of God, singing and their prayers. It was a real credit to you their parents and their teachers who helped to prepare them. During the Mass I explained how the children need to go to Mass on Sunday and learn about the riches of this celebration. I encouraged you to bring the children to the front of the church so they can see the altar and watch what is happening. At the time of Holy Communion, I would like the children to come for a Blessing and any parents who are not Catholic or unable to receive the Sacraments can ask for a Blessing as well. This is something we can do as a family so even if one half is not a catholic, they are showing their support by being there too. The child or parent can put their right hand on left shoulder or vice versa if they are left-handed, then the priest or deacon will know to give a blessing. Of course, those who are Catholics can receive Holy Communion, and it is good for your children to see you receiving the sacrament. If you are a celiac and need a gluten free host, please let me know.

I would like the children to come to mass each week because they tell me they want to, and you can support them in this by helping them to be ready. It is quite nice to walk to church when it is not raining. Getting a breath of fresh air is good and to mass gives you time to think and chat together. If 8.45 am on Sunday morning does not suit your timetable, then we also have another mass at 10.30 am where the choir help with the singing or on Saturday evening at 5.30 pm. Sometimes the children tell me they want to go to church but their mums and dads cannot take them for one reason or another. I think this is sad because as we hear in the Gospel Jesus wants to welcome the children, and he gives them a special blessing. Their desire to come to church is God's blessing on the whole family.

Coming to Church should be a joy but I know we are not always in a good mood. But I can assure you that however bad you might feel when you go into church you will always come out feeling better and encouraged. Sometimes I have not always been in the best frame of mind when I started to celebrate mass but by the end, I feel different and normally better and more positive. Why? because Jesus takes the water and by a miracle it is turned into wine. He takes us as we come to him and as we are. He takes our difficulties and problems, joys and sorrows and transforms us. He brings us to a better place. Don't ask me how but he does it. The miracle of Jesus is that because he came to our world and shared our human nature he understands our struggles and knows our difficulties. He walks with us.

"Walk with me O my Lord, through the darkest night and brightest day. Be at my side, O Lord, hold my hand and guide me on my way. "

"Sometimes the road seems long, my energy is spent then Lord I think of you and I am given strength..." Words taken from the hymn by Estelle White.

May I Wish you a happy Half Term Holiday, stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all at Mass on Sunday.

Every Blessing,

Fr John Cross

School Chaplain

January 2025



Children from Year 6 will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop David Evans next Sunday, 26th January. Please keep them in your prayers.

Confirmation Choir Request

Is your child in years 3–5?

Would they like to support Year 6 by singing in the Confirmation choir at church on Sunday January 26th at 10.30am Mass?

If yes, please contact the school office to let them know.

Best wishes,

Mrs Flanagan and Mr Hainie

Swimming Praise and Progress

Congratulations to Year 3. Their swimming teacher this week praised them as the best class they have in terms of behaviour and progress.





This half term, the children are focussing on the virtues **grateful** and **generous**: **grateful** for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and **generous** with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.



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The latest Wednesday Word is available at <https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/joy?pid=MTA101634&v=160.3>

We will officially launch our year of Jubilee on Friday January 24th. Pope Francis asks us to be Pilgrims of Hope. School will have a holy door that the children will walk through to symbolise their pilgrim journey.



The children wrote some lovely, thoughtful prayers in their RE unit on Christmas. Well done, Year 3!

Father John in School

Father John visited Year 6 last week to discuss Christmas traditions with them and celebrated whole school Mass with us on Thursday. The theme of the Mass was the Baptism of Jesus. It was led brilliantly by Year 4.



NEWSFLASH! - The School Council are running a competition for the best photo or artwork from each class. Don't miss out and try to capture what you have seen. Entries required by 13th February.

What is Big Garden Birdwatch?

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring. **We would love as many families as possible from our school to take part in this important survey.** This will be part of a whole school homework and the RSPB want just one hour of your time.!! So why not find a comfortable view from your garden or park and enjoy nature! Sign up online before 24th January at:

https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch?channel=paidsearch&qad_source=1&qclid=EAIaIQobChMI2dTy-6f9iqMVJaNQBhIDaaj-EAAYASAAEqJ7afD_BwE&qclsrc=aw.ds

December 2024



As we bring the curtain down on 2024, we've had a chance to reflect on all the wonderful things that have been going on at school. You'll find a sample of these in our newsletter today from the past three weeks.

All of the staff at St George and St Teresa wish all of you and your families a happy, holy and 'peaceful' Christmas.

Christmas Eve Tableau - Message from Mrs O'Gara

Rehearsals for the Christmas Eve Tableau (4pm St George and St Teresa Church) will take place immediately after 8:45 Mass on Sunday 22nd (approx. one hour). All children are welcome to attend. Year 6 will be given first refusal of the main characters. Costumes will be available to try on at this rehearsal.

On the 24th, all children are invited to come to Mass in Nativity fancy dress (angels, stars, shepherds, kings, sheep or other animals) and they can join in as we create a tableau of the Nativity as Mass progresses. We ask all children to meet in the parish centre at 3:30.

Finally there will be a cake sale after church on Sunday 22nd to raise money for the Youth SVP group. Please buy if you can! Christmas donations are also very welcome at church.



Happy Christmas
Mrs Flanagan and Mr Hainie

Christmas Productions

Our Christmas productions were a huge success with the children performing brilliantly. Both shows told the Christmas story in their own way and it was lovely to see the hall so busy for each performance of them.



Father John in School

Father John joined us for to celebrate an Advent Mass and an end-of-term Mass. He also offered the Sacrament of Reconciliation to Years 4-6.



Advent Reflections

The children loved leading the Advent Reflections and were so thrilled that so many were able to attend and support. Thank you!



This half term, the children are focussing on the virtues **intentional** and **prophetic**; **intentional** in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.

Our Catholic Social Teaching focus this half-term is **dignity of the human person**.

We remember that each person is made in the image and likeness of God. We want every person to grow and flourish in every aspect of their being.

The latest Wednesday Word is at <https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/christmas-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=158.3>

Christmas Reflection from Father John

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all looking forward to the coming festivities. It is hard not to be thinking about how we shall celebrate Christmas Day and the happy faces of our children as they open their presents. Christmas is a special time for children, but it is also a time to gather as a family, to chat and to recall our memories of Christ-masses past, to think about the future and give thanks for all the many gifts we have received.

Christmas would not be Christmas without a visit to the church to see the Christmas crib and celebrate Mass as a family. This year at St George and St Teresa Church we welcome all who come to church to give thanks to God for the birth of Jesus. The Children's Tableau is at 4pm. Children are invited to come in costume. The parts of Mary and Joseph have been allocated but one can never have enough angels, shepherds, sheep and animals. Perhaps we should have a prize for the most unusual costume? Our Night mass is at 10 pm and who knows if on our way home we may see Father Christmas busy delivering presents on our way home from church. On Christmas Day morning our family mass is at 8.45 am mass. And finally, the 10.30 am mass completes the morning for those who choose a more leisurely approach to the day.

This year our Crib Collection will be for Mary's meals. When we had an appeal for Mary's meals earlier in the year we heard it costs just £19.15 to feed a child for a whole year. This charity takes the minimum amount for administration and does not pay over inflated salaries to deskbound administrators. They feed the children of the world in areas where poverty and hunger prevent children from attending school. Over 2 million children around the world are fed by Mary's Meals. Of all the charities one could support I feel this one most reflects the most basic cry of a child for food.

What does a priest do at Christmas? I need to rest after so many masses. Sometimes I go and visit my family. I will visit my mother who celebrated her 100th Birthday last June. She is still very alert and active. I have two brothers, a sister-in-law, two nieces and two nephews, plus their partners. Father John becomes Uncle John, with a Christmas jumper. We catch up on their lives as much as they hear about life in Darridge. I like all the traditions of Christmas. I like to reminisce about family events and traditions, like when my dog ate the chocolate Fr Christmas of my niece.

Our book is full of such pages. At first, we think the story is about us but when we read the pages we see how much we are part of a much bigger picture, small cogs in a big machine. We see how our choices and decisions affect everyone. Our carbon footprint, our clothes, the food we buy, the car we drive. Each page in our book tells us about ourselves, our family, our global family and how God created us for now and if you haven't asked yourself what God would like you to do it is never too late to have a think about it...

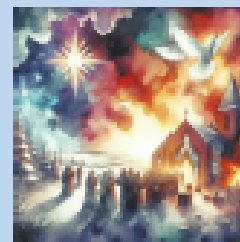
When we reflect on what we have received we realise that God, the giver of life is more than generous. At this Christmas 2024, I wonder what God has given to you and what are going to give in return? As we think about our own experiences let us not forget the pages in our children's book. What will be on these pages?

If it is a very busy and noisy time in your household, try to find a place or a time where you can pray: a time to reflect, a time to look back, a time to look forward, a time to give thanks and a time to listen. God asked Mary to be the mother of his son and Joseph to be step-father. As we celebrate everything which makes Christmas special for us let us be thankful for what we have received.

May God Bless you and your family this Christmas.

Fr John Cross

Parish Priest & School Chaplain.





Reverse Advent Calendar

Bethany Foodbank were very grateful when they came to pick up all that we collected for them through our Reverse Advent Calendar. Thank you to our Mini-Vinnies who helped load the goods onto the van.

St Chad's Sanctuary

The toiletries donated during our Christmas performances went a long way to helping people who really need our help.

A huge thank you to all who supported us.



Year 4 at Church

Well done to Year 4 for leading Mass at Church. They read and sang beautifully.



November 2024

We would also like to remind you about our SIFA Fireside Appeal. During the month of November, we are asking for your support again by collecting supplies for men who are homeless. We are asking our families for second hand coats, warm tops and sleeping bags. (Please ensure they are clean). We are also looking for donations of men's toiletries, socks and underwear.

SIFA are also putting packs together for 'people who are sleeping rough'.



For rough sleeper packs

- Cereal
- Chocolate
- Cereal bars/biscuits
- Crisps
- Soft drinks



Your generosity would make such a difference, no matter how small.

St Teresa said "The Little Way is about being both small and doing the Smallest actions with great love."

It has been lovely to welcome Father John into school to celebrate whole school Masses with us. We've had two since our last newsletter: Harvest Mass in late October and a Mass for the Holy Souls this week.



In preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, Year 6 children led at Parish Masses last weekend and were formally enrolled onto the programme. Congratulations!



Thank you and well done to children from Year 5 who led 8.45 Mass at Church on Sunday just before half-term.



RE Inspire Workshops

It was so lovely to welcome family into school for our RE Inspire Workshops. The theme of *God's creation* led to so many wonderful ideas. The children have told us how much they love working at school with loved ones from home.



Other Faiths

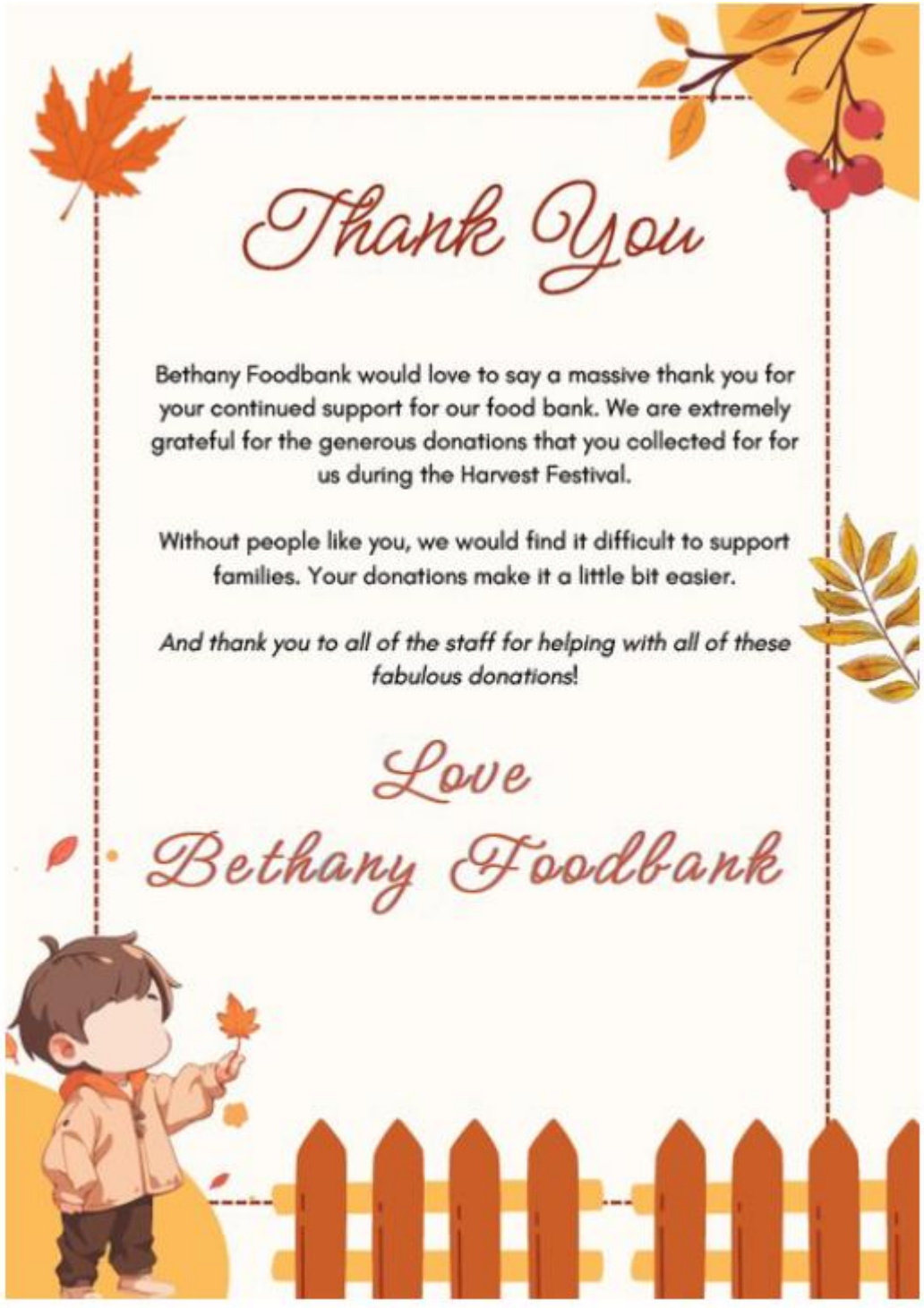
Year 1 and Year 3 have been learning about **Hinduism**.



Judaism

EYFS and Year 4 have been learning about Judaism.





Thank You

Bethany Foodbank would love to say a massive thank you for your continued support for our food bank. We are extremely grateful for the generous donations that you collected for us during the Harvest Festival.

Without people like you, we would find it difficult to support families. Your donations make it a little bit easier.

And thank you to all of the staff for helping with all of these fabulous donations!

Love

Bethany Foodbank



Recognition

We have been given *Equal Access School 2024* status from Barclays Girls' Football School Partnerships in recognition of some of our efforts to ensure that all children get a chance.



October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our busy first half-term carries on and we've got a very busy two weeks to go before the first break. Parents and carers are reminded they're invited to join us in our **RE Inspire Workshops**. These are a chance for you to work with the children in school and give them a chance to share their amazing work with you.

RE Inspire Workshops		
Y2: 14th October 9.20 am	Y5: 14th October 2.30 pm	Y6: 15th October 9.20 am
Y3: 15th October 2.30 pm	Y4: 21st October 2.30 pm	Y1: 22nd October 9.20 am

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. There is a particular focus on the *Our Father*, and we created a display to show some of our learning.



September 2024

Parent workshops will be an opportunity for you to work with your child on an area of the curriculum; this half term it will be RE!

Thank you Father John for celebrating a 'beginning of term' Mass with on Thursday. It was lovely to gather with the children, staff and families.

This half term, we are focussing on the virtues curious and active: curious about everything; and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

Have a great weekend!

Best wishes,

Mrs Flanagan and Mr Hainie



Welcome to St Peter's

FAITH IS OUR FOUNDATION

Open Evening 2024

Thursday 19th September - 5.30pm - 8pm

The governors, staff and pupils of St. Peter's Catholic School extended a warm welcome to all prospective pupils and their families to our Open Evening.

Come and chat to our staff, view our buildings and meet some of our pupils.

Doors open at 5.30pm with several opportunities to hear the Headteacher's address.

OPEN MORNING REQUEST

St. Peter's Open Mornings are held on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th September are an opportunity to visit by appointment our school during the working day.

Message from Children's Liturgy Team

Children's Liturgy currently runs every Sunday during 8:45am mass at St George & St Teresa Church for children in EYFS and KS1. This group is run by a small team of parent volunteers and we urgently need more volunteers in order to keep the group running. You would only be required to help once or twice monthly on a rota basis, so as to ensure we have sufficient parent/child coverage. If you are interested, please message the school office or speak to Catherine Wise.



October 1st is the feast day of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, one of our patron saints. We will be going to Mass at St George and St Teresa Church on Tuesday and having a special St Teresa's Little Way week celebration at school.



On Thursday, some Year 6 children represented our school at Olton Friary as they joined Archbishop Bernard and the other MAC schools in the annual OLAAS Celebration Mass. The children represented our school impeccably and we're very proud of them.

"St Peter's were very good at singing; John Henry Newman danced really well."

"It was very reverent and peaceful—I liked it."

"It was good to see so many children from other schools in our MAC."

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK AT ST GEORGE AND ST TERESA

29th September— 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.45am (Children's Liturgy—please come along as a family)

10.30am

Dear Parents/Carers,

Despite the rainy weather, school has been very busy. We've spent lots of time in classes over the last couple of weeks and there's a real buzz of activity and learning that is very pleasing to see.



International Day of Peace

21st September was International Day of Peace. Just like Pope Francis, each class did something to remember the day and think about how we can spread peace throughout the world.

July 2024

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK AT ST GEORGE AND ST TERESA

21st July— 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Saturday	5.30pm
Sunday	8.45am (Children's Liturgy) 10.30am

Dear Parents/Carers,

And so another school year finishes. As ever, it's been a hectic finish to our year but also a chance to take stock and celebrate so much progress and so many achievements. Father John was joined by Deacon Stephen as Year 6 led our whole-school Mass on Thursday morning. It was lovely to see the hall packed out and the children praying and singing so well. Afterwards, there was a special assembly for Year 6 where we recognised how much they had grown from the tiny mustard seeds that started school all those years ago.



[wednesday-word/summer-holiday-booklet?
pid=MTA101634&v=146.2](https://www.wednesday-word.com/summer-holiday-booklet?pid=MTA101634&v=146.2)



Well done to the children from Years 5 and 6 who led at 8.45 Masses. Celebrating the Mass together is always such a wonderful occasion.



Rom and Daisy, ex-pupils of St G&T, visited school last Thursday to tell the children about what they do at the Parish Youth SVP and share ideas about how they would like to work with the Mini-Vinnies next year. We are very excited at the prospect of working collaboratively!



Message from Father John



Dear Friends,

The word "holiday" is an example of how our language changes but never loses touch with its origins. Our understanding of the word holiday today means a break from the routine of work and responsibilities and a chance to visit new places, to relax, to experience a change of scenery and to rest. I am sure most of us are looking forward to getting away for a length of time, at home or abroad and I hope that you all have a good one - whatever the weather!

For Christians the word "holiday" is linked to "holy day". A holy day is a day of special celebration which marks the days of Easter or Christmas or when we remember the Saints who have gone before us. When I attended school we used to have the holy days as a day off. We went to Mass and enjoyed our free day. I recall friends who attended non-Catholic schools who said, "I wish I was a Catholic, then I could have the day off!" It felt really special to be able to have those special days and great to be a Catholic.

A holy day is a day made holy by the event to be celebrated. It was and is a day when we could celebrate and enjoy a feast - just as we enjoy a feast at Christmas and on our special days.

I expect some of you enjoyed a family feast on the day of First Holy Communion or Confirmation but would you remember that occasion every year? It would be a nice way to remember what we received and why it was such a special occasion.

Another word which we have used before leaving for the summer holiday is "goodbye". "Goodbye" we say when we are parting company with our friends and family. It means "God be with you" - can you see it in the word? Go-od be wi 'ye. Yes I know the "with" has been left out. The word goodbye is a special word - it comes from the heart especially if we do not expect to see the other person for a while or even not at all. I will leave you to think about how and when we use the word "goodbye" and how so often it ends in tears.

On Thursday we celebrated our end of term Year 6 leavers Mass and assembly and on Friday it was a day to say "goodbye".

I wish you all a very happy holiday and may God be with you.

Every Blessing,

Fr John

June 2024

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK AT ST GEORGE AND ST TERESA

16th June— 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.45am (Children's Liturgy—please come along as a family)

10.30am

Dear Parents/Carers,

Congratulations to the children of Year 3 who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 8th June at St George and St Teresa Church. The children prepared so very well for this and this showed through their reverence and responses on the day. Well done, Year 3!



Another well done, this time to Years 1 and 4. Year 1 did their Phonics Screening Check this week and Year 4 their Multiplication Tables Check. Both these areas are key building blocks for future learning and the hard work put in will serve them well for the rest of their lives.



Best wishes,

Mrs Flanagan and Mr Hainie

L. Flanagan and S. Hainie

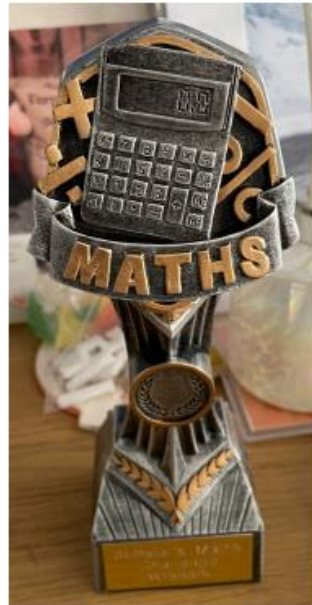
We are thrilled by the outcome of our Skipathon. Our target was to raise £750 to develop a water supply for a community where access to clean, safe water was not possible. Through the efforts of the children and staff, and the financial support from you, we managed to smash our target and raise enough to supply water for not one, but two, communities. Being able to give this option for poor and vulnerable people less fortunate than ourselves really does make a difference. Find out more about how the money we've raised will be used at <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/products/community-water-supply>. CAFOD, the charity we're working with on this, were so impressed that they sent Chris out to say a personal thank you to all the children. Our tally has actually gone up since this photo was taken and our final total is **£1,702.21**. Thanks again everyone for all your support. Our final shopping list is two wells, one terrific toilet, two emergency shelters and two chickens!



Year 6 were discovering about the journey of discipleship on their residential trip to Alton Castle. They had a great time and learned so much too. Thanks to Mr Blewitt, Mrs Ansell and Miss Williams for looking after the children during their trip.

Maths Champs

After 3 rounds of competition, Year 5 St. G and T were victorious at the St. Peter's Maths Challenge. Bethan, Adam, Penelope and Eamonn worked well as a team solving a variety of reasoning and problem solving questions. The scores were close but after an amazing final match, in which we dropped hardly any points, we won by 3 points! A fantastic result for our super mathematicians!



Message from Father John

Dear Friends,

I expect we all have different days which we might describe as the highlight of the school calendar. For some the first day of school is a momentous occasion. Others may consider sports day or winning a competition to figure highly in their memory. For me, the highlight of the school year is when the children of Year 3 make their First Holy Communion and the children from Year 6 are Confirmed.

Last Saturday morning I was tucking into my last slice of toast and marmalade for breakfast when the door-bell rang at 8.45 am. As I gingerly opened the door in my dressing gown, I did not recognise the gentleman standing on the step. He asked if I could open the church for him to set up the video. I knew the parents wanted the mass to be recorded but did not know he would be arriving two and half hours before the mass began. I asked him to wait a few minutes.

The preparations for the Mass began early. The syllabus for learning includes preparation for and celebration of First Confession, meetings with you, the parents and carers, meetings with staff and plans for the day. In the week before the First Holy Communion Mass the First Communion machine springs into life and various parts prepare for the day. Mr Hainie spent about two hours on Friday evening after school to prepare the church for over three hundred guests, arranging notices for the pews and extra chairs. Also, on Friday we had been asked not to put the car park barriers down because there would be a late delivery after 9pm for the refreshments after mass on Saturday morning. When I looked into the church a little later on Saturday morning the photographer was doing a roaring trade in the Conference Room as children and families had their pictures taken. It was all systems go for one of the biggest occasions in the church and school calendar.

The children were well turned out and following two separate practices in the church on Wednesday morning and Friday afternoon, they knew when and where to stand, kneel, bow and so on. Miss Williams' boyfriend led the singing, and her sister played the keyboard. We enjoyed his singing of all the hymns as he practiced for a good hour before the mass began. Mr Blewitt played his guitar and added his voice to the music along with some extra choral support. It was a very good mass and I hope everyone enjoyed it. Even the little boy who had become separated from his dad and after crawling to the front of the church and in full view of everyone wanted to be the highlight of the show!

Afterward Mass ended and after photographs, the children made their way into the hall to enjoy their First Communion Breakfast including a slice of their First Communion cake. The kitchen helpers worked like clockwork to make sure there were enough cups of tea or coffee and juice for the children. I was so thirsty that I had one of each but did not see a slice of cake. Nowadays most parents have family events lined up at home or elsewhere, so the Breakfast is not as full as in days gone by. We don't have a boiled egg any more or chocolate biscuits as the parents fear sticky fingers wiped on white dresses. Many thanks to the car park stewards, unseen by me but I am told they did a grand job. Our car park is quite capacious but could not accommodate all the cars.

For the highlight of the year the day was most enjoyable and on behalf of the parish I congratulate the children who have reached this milestone in their lives to receive Holy Communion and to be welcome to participate in Mass at church and in school. Thank you to parents, teachers and all our helpers who made it such a memorable day.

The following day after a Thanksgiving Mass in church I had another milestone occasion to attend later on Sunday afternoon as I attended a very special Birthday party for my mother who received a card from the King and Queen to mark her Centenary year.

Every Blessing,

Fr John

There will be transition sessions for the children during normal school time on July 11th.

School Fayre Next Week

Dear parents, carers and families, can you please help?

Our Mini Vinnies will be running a stall on Friday at Summer Fayre and have been busy planning their activities.





Well done to the children from Year 4 who led Sunday's 8.45 Mass. They represented the school so very well and it was great to be told afterwards by parishioners how much they enjoyed having the children for Mass.

At Sunday's Parish Picnic, there were some familiar old faces there. Several ex-pupils were on the Youth SVP stall, offering lots of games for children to play.

They are delighted to be continuing where they left off at St G&T in thinking about the common good.



In between sports days on Tuesday, children from Years 5 and 6 went to the MAC Athletics where they competed against children from all the other schools in the MAC. They performed and conducted themselves fantastically, winning first place in the Small Schools Competition. Well done!



May 2024

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK AT ST GEORGE AND ST TERESA

19th May— Pentecost

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.45am (Children's Liturgy—please come along as a family)

10.30am

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy few weeks! Eastertide is finishing and we are preparing for the feast of Pentecost on Sunday.

Nursery and Reception classes wore red clothing today to help them with their learning about this special celebration about the coming of the Holy Spirit.



Year 6 have been sitting their Key Stage 2 SATs tests this week. They've worked ever so hard preparing for them and gave their all during them. We are really pleased and proud with their efforts. Well done, Year 6!

It doesn't stop there for Year 6 as they are off to Alton Castle next week with Mr Blewitt, Mrs Ansell and Miss Williams for three days of fun, team-building, prayer and reflection. Please keep a close eye on our Twitter/X page for updates @stgandtschool



Year 3 have been really busy during this sacramental period for them. They received the Sacrament of Reconciliation from Father John, who was most impressed by their reverence and knowledge of the sacrament.

As part of their preparation for First Holy Communion, Year 3 also received a visit from One Life Music. Their enthusiasm for what they learned during and after this was fantastic. Please continue to keep year 3 in your prayers during this important time.



Last week was the feast of the Ascension. EYFS and KS1 had a service in school and KS2 went to church and joined in with other parishioners from our community to celebrate Mass.



Also last week, we had a beautiful **May Procession**. The flowers brought in adorning the statue of Our Lady and the wonderful weather all contributed to a very special occasion. However, the most pleasing part was seeing the children, family and friends all coming together to pray to Mary and see Father John crown our Queen of Heaven.



The whole school (including staff) are getting ready for next Friday's skip-a-thon when we will be sponsoring our skipping to support Cafod in providing community water supplies to people who need them. Please help the children to help others by supporting their sponsorship and any practice they might be doing at home. See <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/products/community-water-supply> for more details.



April 2024

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK AT ST GEORGE AND ST TERESA

21st April — Fourth Sunday of Easter

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.45am (Children's Liturgy—please come along as a family)

10.30am

Dear Parents/Carers,

The first two weeks of the summer term have flown by. The liturgical season of Lent finished during the holidays and we are now in the most holy season of Easter.

Mary's Meals Visit

We received a visit from Mary's Meals and the children learned about how the money they raised would be used to help others much less fortunate than ourselves.

During Lent, our fund-raising activities managed to raise nearly £1000 for our chosen charities:

Father Hudson's—£579.21

Mary's Meals —£410.26

Well done to everyone!



We had an especially busy end to last term when we received a graded inspection from Ofsted—we will share their report with you when we receive it from them.

Please keep Year 3 in your prayers as they enrol for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion over the next few days.

Mr Hainie, Mrs Kudanowska and Mrs Parmar are off to PGL Boreatton Park next week with Year 5 for a week of fun, adventure and team-building. Please keep a close eye on our Twitter/X page for updates @stgandtschool

We would like to thank Mrs Porter for the Irish Dancing workshop she delivered as part of our St Patrick's Day celebrations. To celebrate St George's Day next week, Key Stage 2 are going to church for Mass on Tuesday and EYFS/ KS1 will have a special service in school on Wednesday. Please come along to one if you can make it.



Best wishes,

Mrs Flanagan and Mr Hainie.

L. Flanagan and S. Hainie



This half term, we are focussing on the virtues **eloquent** and **truthful** in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

The latest Wednesday Word is available at <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/trust?pid=MTA101634&v=125.7>

Mrs Grace went on a pilgrimage to Lourdes over the Easter Holidays and had a mass there offered up for friends and family of our school.

Father John and Mr Hainie have been working on the chaplaincy programme for this term. See *Dates For Your Diary*—note there are some dates still to be finalised and we'll let you know as soon as they are.

Father John has kindly sent the following note for you—please read:

Dear Friends,

At last, I am beginning to feel at home since moving to the parish in September 2022. It takes a while to settle in, for the unfamiliar to become familiar. I expect those of you who have moved house will know how this is.

This Sunday at 10.30 am I look forward to celebrating a special Enrolment Mass for the children who are to receive their First Holy Communion on 8th June. I know the children of Year 3 have already begun to learn about this Sacrament and how sharing the bread of life will help them to be disciples of Jesus and now old enough to take their rightful places with us at mass. The parishioners have been praying for you at mass each Sunday and we hope your journey of discovery will help you to know the friendship of Jesus. You are very welcome to come to any Mass at St George & St Teresa Church weekdays at 10 am and on Sunday 5.30pm for the Vigil Mass on Saturday evenings or 8.45 am with Children's special service in the hall, or 10.30 am.

Looking ahead to next week I am pleased to see we shall be celebrating the Feast on St George on Tuesday 23rd April. Weather permitting, the KS2 children will be able to walk down to Mass at 10 am. Mr Hainie would be grateful for some volunteers to walk with the children on their way to church and back to school. Parents and carers are very welcome to attend.

Just recently our national sports team have had a contretemps about the appearance of the cross of St George on their sports gear in shades of blue. Sadly, the designers, seem to know little of the story of St George, nor of the history of our Nation which has flown this flag of St George through war and peace. The red cross on a white background is the emblem of our country and known across the world. It does not need to be redesigned in colour or shape.

There is a picture of St George as a knight in shining armour in the stained glass window above the raised seating area at the back of the church. This window is dedicated to those parishioners who died during the Second World War. It depicts St George thrusting his spear into the dragon from the legend of his exploits. The dragon represents the devil and St George upholds the virtues of chivalry, honesty, truth, freedom and courtesy.

A former curate once told me he was a strong believer in chivalry and would always hold the door for anyone and invite them to go first. One day he opened the door for someone who said, "I hope you are not opening this door because I am a lady?" To which he replied, "No, I am not holding the door for you because you are a lady, but because I am a gentleman!" I believe in good manners which is encapsulated in the legend of St George, our knight in shining armour.

Here is the Opening Prayer of the Mass on the Feast of St George:

"God of hosts, who so kindled the fire of charity in the heart of St George your martyr, that he bore witness to the risen Lord both by his life and by his death; grant us by his intercession we pray, the same faith and power of love, that we who rejoice in his triumph may be led to share with him in the fullness of the resurrection.

Fr John Cross

School Chaplain.

March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've come back from half-term and hit the ground running. School is very busy as always. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have had their Lenten Inspire Workshops which have been so well attended. EYFS and Years 1 and 2 have theirs next week—please come along if you can and share in your child's learning.

Lent is a very important season in our faith as we prepare for Easter. Our Catholic Social Teaching focus this half-term is the option for the poor and vulnerable. This will involve learning about those less fortunate than ourselves and doing what we can to help them. We have chosen two charities to support this year, Father Hudson's and Mary's Meals. Speakers from both will be in school to tell the children about who they help and how we can support.



There will be lots of lent-based activities including a coin cross constructed from the money in the Father Hudson's envelopes, modernised Stations of the Cross and a cake sale.

Father John visited Year 6 last week for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Afterwards, he spent more time with Year 6 teaching them to be champions for Reconciliation in our school. They are going to work with Years 4 and 5 to help prepare them for Reconciliation with Father John in a couple of weeks time.

Plans are almost finalised for the preparation of Year 3 children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion. Letters with information will be sent out shortly.

February 2024

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK AT ST GEORGE AND ST TERESA

21st February —5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.45am (Children's Liturgy—please come along as a family)

10.30am Year 6 Confirmation

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sunday is a big day for Year 6. Bishop David Evans will be at St George and St Teresa Church to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on our children. They've been preparing thoroughly, including researching carefully which saint they want to have for the Confirmation name and practising the service at church. Please keep them in your prayers. There will be a celebration Mass at school on Tuesday morning (9.45) led by Year 6.

School is busy as ever. The children have enjoyed dressing up today and working on their number bonds and multiplication tables for the NSPCC Number Day 2024. Well done to our girls' football team who played their first matches in back-to-back fixtures this week. Mr Langford reports that they did the school proud! Children who have been working exceptionally hard on improving their reading have received a golden token from Mr Hainie so that they can pick a book from our new vending machine.

January 2024

Year 6 Confirmation Preparation

Wednesday was a busy day for Year 6. As part of their preparation for Confirmation on February 4th, they went to church in the evening to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation

This had been preceded during the day with a workshop with Emily from One Life. The children found it to be a really rewarding and enlightening experience.



"It made me calm and I realised it will not be scary. It helped me to see my saint."

"Emily made it so fun by singing and playing games. It was one of the funniest days of my life."

December 2023

3rd December – First Sunday of Advent

Saturday	5.30pm	Tommy Cardall RIP (Y & A)
Sunday	8.45am	David White RIP (LV)
	10.30am	People of the Parish



Come and join us at 8.45am mass on Sunday

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

In December, we have lots of exciting nativity crafts for the children including:

- Baubles to hang on their tree
- Wooden nativity colouring
- Making crackers

We have a special board in the Parish Centre where we display our wonderful activities. We like to sing songs and have fun after listening to the gospel.

Mass

Join us for a whole-school Advent Mass on
Tuesday December 5th at 9.45 am.



Advent Reflections

We have organised Advent reflections from Year 1—Year 6 throughout this important season of preparation. Family and friends are very welcome to join these reflections. They will be held at 3.00pm.

Monday 4th December - Year 5

Thursday 7th December - Year 4

Friday 8th December - Years 1 and 2

Monday 11th December - Year 3

Wednesday 20th December—Year 6

Mass times this week for St George and St Teresa

Christmas Masses and Services

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Saturday 23rd December Vigil - 5.30pm
Sunday 24th December - 8.45am
There will be no Sunday 10.30am Mass

The Nativity of the Lord
Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve - Childrens Mass - 4pm
Midnight Mass! Celebrated by Mgr McHugh - 8pm
Monday 25th December Christmas Day – 8.45am and 10.30am

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy few weeks we've had to end our term. There have been five Advent Reflections, five Christmas performances, one Round the Tree and two whole-school Masses during Advent as we prepared together for the wonderful feast of Christmas. It has been great to see so many of you in school to celebrate these with us. The feedback has been really positive and we are already planning opportunities to invite families in for next term.

For those who weren't able to make rehearsals for the Christmas Eve Children's Mass at church, if you're child would like to take part, they can turn up dressed as a character from the Nativity story—24th December 4pm.

While there are so many things for the children to look forward to over the Christmas period, we have been encouraging them to think about the true meaning of Christmas. The birth of Jesus on earth is a very special time for our faith and it has allowed us to reflect on what we can do to make the world a better place. Mrs Grace delivered a special whole-school assembly on Wednesday where the children learned about the difference their donations to SIFA Fireside would make to homeless people in the local area.



Some pictures from our Christmas performances



November 2023

The KS2 School Council members had the opportunity to listen to Dame Jane Goodall, who discussed how we can all play a part in preserving our environment. The children had already been learning through Catholic Social Teaching about our responsibility for stewardship of God's creation, so were able to experience this message through someone who has a unique and extensive understanding of the challenges facing us. It was an opportunity of a lifetime to hear her speak—below you will see some of the children's opinion on the talk.



H: Her story about a time in Africa when she 'lost' a dog then came across a lion when looking for it was funny.

B: The video about the people she's worked with and the things they'd done were brilliant. Their work to protect the chimpanzees was really inspiring. I also liked when the baby chimpanzee touched her nose.

F: I loved how she never gave up on helping the chimpanzees she cared for.

S: I loved how she was willing to give up all of her 'stuff and money' to help save the world in her own way.

Our recent Masses to celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving and All Saints were fabulous services. The children read, sang, responded and prayed with such reverence and sincerity. See the dates page for more Masses we will be celebrating between now and the end of term.

A message from Father John—Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions: Have you ever asked to have a Mass said for a special intention? Here is how to go about it. In the Church entrance called the Narthex there are smallish brown envelopes on which you write the name of the person or intention. In school these are available from Mr Hainie. You might like a mass to be offered by the priest for a special intention for someone you know for example you might want to remember a significant wedding anniversary or birthday or a mass for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. We ask for the name of the donor and will put your initials in brackets on the newsletter when the mass is said in church so you know the Mass being said is your intention. You can request a particular date and we will try to offer the mass on the day requested or the nearest day. Weekdays are less busy and weekends sometimes have a waiting time of a couple of weeks. The suggested donation is £10. This is to keep a priest fed and watered for the day. As most of us are aware £10 does not go very far so a little more is much appreciated. If you have asked for a mass to be said and know the date when it will be offered it is nice to attend the mass in person and invite friends and family to attend with you. You might like to send a card to a person to let them know you are having a Mass said for them or their intention. We have a good selection of Sympathy cards and Mass cards for various intentions e.g. birthdays, marriage anniversaries, exam success, Christmas etc. If you are not sure what to do, please ask Fr John. The completed brown envelope can be put in the Sunday collection, posted through the Presbytery letter box (no need to ring the bell), handed in at the sacristy before or after Mass, or given to the parish priest. The intention is recorded in a book and the dates entered into the parish mass diary. If there is a problem eg your handwriting is illegible, or you've asked for a date when the church is not open, or if there is a funeral on that day, your best contact number is helpful so we can sort it out.

Every Blessing,

Fr John

Year 4 had a brilliant time at St Peter's last Friday, taking part in a Gaelic Football event with other primary schools from Our Lady and All Saints.

On Monday, a small group of Year 4 children visited St Peter's again to take part in a workshop for Art & Design and Design & Technology. We express our continued thanks to St Peter's for all of the enrichment opportunities they are providing for our children.

K: I loved making the candle holder, especially how we made them using a vice and acrylic paint.

I: I liked how using the vice and sand paper made the things change.

F: Drawing a picture of St Peter, the teacher showed us how to make it better by using the lighter colours first.

E: I really enjoyed the St Peter drawing too—it's just a shame I couldn't bring it home!

J: I love Art & Design and D&T, so it was just great!



We are on the countdown for the Christmas Fayre and can't wait to begin our activities with you. If you can support the PTFA in any way, please contact them directly.. The PTFA will have contacted you about this already.

Advent Reflections

As we approach Advent, we have organised Advent reflections from Year 1—Year 6 throughout this important season of preparation. Parents/Carers are very welcome to join these reflections. They will be held at 3.00pm.

Monday 4th December - Year 5

Thursday 7th December - Year 4

Friday 8th December - Years 1 and 2

Monday 11th December - Year 3

Wednesday 20th December—Year 6

Reminder: Next Friday (24th November), we will be having Indian Dance workshops in school. All children should wear their PE kits that day.

October 2023

A request for help: we're trying to create an exciting house points display for the children and want to use posters of our house saints (approximately A3 size). We've found ones we like of St Andrew, St George and St Patrick (see below), but cannot find one of St David. If anyone knows a good source for a similar St David picture, please let the school office know.



In consultation with school, Father John has changed the way we organise Masses at school. We'll still have regular whole school Masses that all are welcome to (one next week—see next page for more details). Class Masses will happen in the classroom, with just the children, teaching staff and Father John. They will be less formal and allow the children to explore and understand the Mass at a level relevant to their understanding.

Well done to our Year 5 children who took part in their MAC football tournament at St Peters. They worked extremely well as a team showing the talents God has given them. The whole class will be heading to Arden next week to take part in a netball festival.

We dedicated Tuesday's Mass to one of our patron saints, St Teresa. The children were very reverent and enjoyed learning even more about her from Father John. On the 24th October we will be celebrating our Harvest mass at 9.30am. We will be collecting donations for the Bethany Foodbank and they can be dropped into our collection box in the reception area. Items they have requested are:

- Tinned meat
- Tinned vegetables
- Long-life milk
- Stuffing
- Salad cream
- Coffee



Special thanks go out to Charlotte from Year 6 for leading on this in school.

Looking ahead to the next half term and Christmas. Please see dates and times for Early Years Nativity and a Christmas performance from all children in Year 1-6. Tickets will be sold via Eventbrite— and more details will follow. Round the tree will be happening this year with Year 4, choir and children who have instrumental lessons.

Looking ahead to the next half term and Christmas. Please see dates and times for Early Years Nativity and a Christmas performance from all children in Year 1-6. Tickets will be sold via Eventbrite— and more details will follow. Round the tree will be happening this year with Year 4, choir and children who have instrumental lessons.



Tuesday is our Harvest Mass at 9.30 am in school. All are welcome. Thinking about stewardship of God's creation, we will be supporting the Bethany Foodbank. We ask everyone to bring in something to help support this cause. Items specifically requested are:

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Tinned meat | Tinned vegetables | Long-life milk |
| Stuffing | Salad cream | Coffee |

September 2023



On Thursday we celebrated mass as an academy at Olton Friary where we joined together to celebrate the start of an academic year and staff throughout the academy who have served 25 years in schools within our academy. G and T's cleaner Faz Lunnon was presented with a lifetime achievement award and it was lovely to be there to be part of the celebration.

Next week is little way week. Little Way Week is inspired by St Thérèse of Lisieux, patron of mission. As a child St Thérèse dreamed of being a missionary. With age she understood that very few of us are called to make big and radical gestures, but that through small, loving actions we too can deliver God's love to the world. Next week we will be encouraging children to follow St Thérèse way by sharing with people around them little actions to show that we love and care for them.



"Nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love."

St Thérèse of Lisieux