



RE NEWSLETTER

English Martyrs Roman Catholic School



*Summer Second
Half-Term 2023*

Dear Parents,

'The true measure of building the kingdom of God is not in grandiose gestures, but in the everyday acts of love and compassion towards our fellow beings.' (Unknown)

What does this mean for you in your life?

As we come to the end of the school's academic year and say goodbye to our Year Six cohort let us pray for one another and hope that they go forth full of confidence, ready to be Christ in the world and sure in the knowledge that God will give them the strength that they need.

The Feast of St Thomas More and St John Fisher

The day started with a prayer and then a continental breakfast in our school's prayer garden with the parents and children. The parents were then invited to Mass at English Martyrs to celebrate this special feast, where the Year 4 children planned and read the Mass beautifully and reverently.





Feast of the Sacred Heart

Father Alex came to the school to celebrate the Sacred Heart of Jesus and taught the children about Eucharistic Adoration. They learned about the Monstrance and its significance.

Loving God,

We thank you for your great love and for the gift of your Sacred Heart. May it always be a reminder to us of your never-ending love and compassion. Please give us the strength and courage to follow in Jesus' footsteps by loving and serving others. Help us to always be kind and generous to those in need.

Amen

Whole School First Holy Communion Mass and the Feast of St Peter and St Paul

On Corpus Christi Sunday, the Year 3 children received the body and blood of Jesus for the first time. The school then celebrated this Sacrament in school with Father Alex. Jesus tells us that anyone who eats the bread that he offers will live forever. Jesus tells us that he is the living bread which has come down from heaven. That anyone who eats this bread will live forever. He goes on to say that the bread he gives is his flesh, and that whoever eats his flesh and drinks his blood lives in him and he lives in them. Every time we come to Mass, the bread and wine are changed into the body and blood of Jesus. And we come to share in it, even if we only have a blessing, welcoming Jesus into our lives.

As a school we also celebrated the Feast of St Peter and St Paul. This feast day is celebrated on June 29th. The day commemorates the martyrdom of two saints, the two great Apostles, Saint Peter and St. Paul, assigned by tradition to the same day of June in the year 67.



THE CHURCH

NURSERY AND RECEPTION

This half term, the children in the Nursery and the Reception classes learned about the Church. The children began the unit with a visit to English Martyrs church to understand that we call the Church the family of God. They learnt that the church building is a holy place where they can all pray and are welcome. In class and through role-play and craft activities, the children learnt that Jesus is present in a special way in the Blessed Sacrament and he invites us to be with him.

THE MIRACLES

Year 1

The children in Year One have been learning about some miracle stories from the gospels. They retold in simple form, two miracle stories - the calming of the storm and the cure of the blind man. The children were able say what a miracle story tells us about Jesus and God. The children gave examples of how a miracle of Jesus may encourage them to act with kindness. They then talked, asked questions and wondered about Jesus' miracles and whether they have anything to say about prayer, kindness, trust/faith. The children made some lovely artwork on the miracles.



THE FIRST CHRISTIANS

A Map of Jesus' Life



YEAR 2

Through their learning, the children recognised the link between Pentecost and the beginning of Christianity. They described how the story of the escape from the prison displays Peter's virtues and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They described how the Holy Spirit helped the disciples and gave examples of how they can use these virtues and gifts of the Holy Spirit in their own lives. They then described how the life of the Christians can be put into practice in their own lives. The children also mapped Jesus' life.

BEING A CHRISTIAN

YEAR 3

The children in Year 3, retold the story of St. Peter's life or the Conversion of St. Paul, ensuring it is accurate in its sequence and detail. They then made a simple link between the Fruits of the Spirit and lives of St. Peter and St. Paul. They then asked and responded to questions about the motivation, feelings and actions of St. Peter and St. Paul. They

	<p>also gave examples on how you can create a better world and made simple links between the Parable of the Good Samaritan and loving your neighbour (through different virtues and actions).</p>
<p><u>THE CHURCH</u></p>	<p>YEAR 4</p> <p>The children described four different roles people perform in the parish community, giving reasons for their actions. They made links between beliefs and life, giving reasons for actions and choices e.g. the life and beliefs of St Teresa of Calcutta, Pope St. John Paul II etc. They used a range of religious vocabulary, Communion of Saints, mission, liturgical calendar, sacraments, Baptism, Creed, Pope, Bishop, Priest, Parish. They described the life and work of key figures in the history of the people of God - Mother Teresa and/or Pope St. John Paul II.</p>
<p><u>THE EUCHARIST</u></p> <p><i>Pupil Voice in response to Adoration at English Martyrs Church:</i></p> <p><i>"I felt relieved, I had given my thoughts and prayers to someone that I trust. I confessed my worries to God. I also adored to God. I felt closer to God and felt his presence in me. Even though I didn't really want to go, after I had experienced this, I was happy that I went. It also felt less than ten minutes. It was calm and quiet". - Romaine</i></p> <p><i>"I feel that I just talked to Jesus in the same room as him. When I prayed I felt a warm feeling coming into me, engulfing me in what I think was Jesus' answer. I felt as if everything else in this world had been stripped away and there was just me and the Holy Trinity talking to each other" - Leo</i></p>	<p>YEAR 5</p> <p>The students began to understand the celebration of the Eucharist. The children focused on the key parts of the Mass and explored the ways Christ is present. They learnt that the sacrament presents the Mass as central to the life of the community. In it we remember and make present the saving act of God in Christ and give thanks and praise. The Year Five pupils went to church before the 1pm Mass to participate in Adoration. They also learnt that in sharing the Eucharist we become one body in Christ.</p>

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: FAITH IN ACTION

YEAR 6

The children used scripture passages to show an understanding of being made in God's image (Genesis 1:27: 2:7). They showed how their actions and the actions of Christians are informed by their beliefs. They showed an understanding how the belief that we are made in God's image forms the way we live and make decisions. They recognised the difference, comparing and contrasting different points of view about inequality. They showed how their beliefs and decisions are informed by families and communities and the beliefs of the Catholic church.



Have a Happy and Safe Holiday

Gracious God, with humble hearts we ask you to listen to the prayers we bring to you.

That we may shout the gospel in our homes

God, give us love.

That we may shout the gospel in our workplaces and classrooms

God, give us faith.

That we may shout the gospel in the world

God, give us courage.

That we may be grateful for all the blessings we have received this year

God, give us gratitude.

That in the coming holidays, we may be renewed and refreshed

God, give us peace.

Mrs Briggs

RE Curriculum Leader

Dignity

U have the dignity that everyone else does even if your different in your own special way.

Nobody is better or worse than yourself you of the same value as them.

I f you don't treat people with the dignity they deserve, then they won't either because you reap what you sow.

Queen or King, monarch or prime minister we were all made in God's and likeness and we are all worthy of dignity.

U nique is the word that describes special people and we are all this.

E verybody is equal to everyone and we should treat everyone and with the same respect and dignity that we would like to be treated with.

Martha

Dignity

D o what others like, you'll receive what you like.

I nsignificant is no one we all are unique in our own way and highly valued.

G od loves you and whatever you do just know you were made in the image and likeness of God.

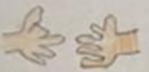
N o one is to have feeling of inferiority like being left out of activities and not feeling loved.

T he world is so large and without teamwork or respect this world would become dust.

Y ou can make a difference whether small or big we still can make a difference if you try.

Love



respect 

Edward

HONESTY