



St. Francis Catholic Primary School



# Newsletter 7

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**'I am a sign of God's Love.'**

**Catholic Life / Collective Worship / RE**

## Holy Week

***For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.***

John 3:16

For those of you who may have read our Newsletter for Holy Week last year you may remember it began with the words, 'In these uncertain times...' Again this year, this world can sometimes seem very unsettled and unpredictable. However, in April we celebrate the centre point of our faith and the reason for our hope and joy in the face of uncertainty: **Easter!**

Throughout Lent, from Ash Wednesday through to Jesus' death on the cross, we have the chance to intentionally grow closer to God. Children have focussed on making good changes to their behaviour and have learned that we can be full of hope and faith as we work on getting closer to God!

Children have also learned that God sent His Son Jesus to live like us and experience temptations, just like us. The cross is the clue to God's great love for us, because He died to save us and give us hope. Jesus didn't wait for us to be perfect and 'ready' for God's love, He gave His life for us as we are, still working towards the loving people we will become.





As we are sure you have seen on Twitter, our Faith Ambassadors chose to support CAFOD as one of their charities for our Lenten Fundraising this year. We have taken part in CAFOD's 'Walk against Hunger' where staff and children have been walking 200 kilometres collectively this Lent, to help stamp out hunger, one step at a time. Many thanks for all the sponsorships forms and money we have received already and please remember to send yours in as soon as possible, if you still need to do so.



We have been delighted to announce the birth of Rory James Aiton. Rory arrived on 29<sup>th</sup> March at 12:17pm weighing 7lb 12 oz. Mom, Dad and Baby are all doing well. As you can see from the photos – a very handsome boy indeed! We can't wait to meet him in person!



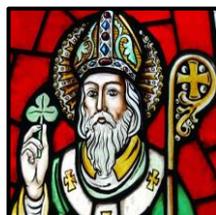
We would also like to welcome Miss Whytock who will be teaching in Year 6. Please make her very welcome. We are sure she will enjoy her time at St Francis.



The three disciplines of Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The discipline of almsgiving has been marvellously displayed by our children, staff and families this year. We held a Mufti Day on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> when children and staff were asked to wear the colours of the Ukrainian flag and bring a donation. As ever an amazing spirit of generosity was shown and a donation of well over £300 will be sent to the DEC Organisation Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

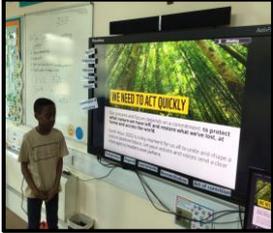


On March 17th we celebrated our cultural diversity with a Mufti Day to celebrate St Patricks Day. Our next celebration will be on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April to celebrate St George's Day. Dress up as a knight or a dragon! Or wear red and white! Please bring a £1 donation for School Fund if you can.

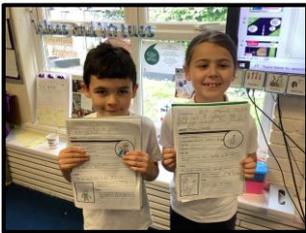




On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March the children and whole school took part in Earth Hour. The lights were turned off for an hour to conserve energy and protect the environment. The children watched presentations about the Earth Hour and conservation issues. Year 1 worked on attracting local wildlife to be observed from the classroom.



All the children had great fun during science week! Each class had an astronaut to research and we even had a fabulous planetarium visit! Everyone had a chance to go inside and explore the stars, planets and constellations. We also designed Mars Rovers and Space Stations and made rockets and spaceships



Working together with the Catholic Primary Partnership, St Francis Catholic Primary School played host to six teachers and school leaders from Sweden. Linda was with us all week, observing how UK schools operate and on Wednesday a group evaluation session was held.

Children from Year 6 wrote and shared an assembly of collective worship and took our guests on tours of the School. They conducted themselves in a very mature and polite manner which was commented on by all concerned. Well done Year 6, we are very proud of you!



**Reminder** – St Francis Catholic Primary School is a healthy snack and nut free zone. Children should not be bringing chocolate, cakes or sweets for snack time or in their lunch boxes. Thank you!



### **Mass Times at St Francis of Assisi, Sheffield**

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	Sat. 9th. 7:00pm and Sun. 10th. 11:00am
<b>Holy Thursday</b>	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm
<b>Good Friday</b>	Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00pm Stations of the Cross 7:00pm
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	Easter Vigil 7:00pm
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	Mass at 11:00am

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April

Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup>

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April

Mon 9<sup>th</sup>–Fri 13<sup>th</sup> June

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> – Wed 6<sup>th</sup> July

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July

**School closes Easter Holidays at 1:25/1:30pm**

Palm Sunday

Good Friday

Easter Day

**School reopens to pupils 8:45am**

St George's Day Mufti

SATS Week

Bishop Stephen visiting School

Year 6 Confirmation 6:00pm

School photos

Year 4 Holy Communion 9:30am

Year 3 Holy Communion 9:30am

Year 6 residential to Alton Castle

**School closes Summer Holidays at 1:25/1:30pm**



Due to the Queen's Jubilee and an already planned teacher day school will close to pupils at 1:30pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July for the Summer Break.

It is hardly believable that we are at the end of the second term of the school year already! We have achieved so much and yet we still have so much to do.

Next half term our older children will be making their Sacraments and beginning to think of the next stages in their lives. At the same time we will be preparing to meet our newest intake for whom everything will be a new adventure.

As you may be aware, staff have powered through this half term, battling the dreaded CV19 and various other bugs! Governors and I are, as ever, grateful for the hard work of all the staff at St Francis Catholic Primary School.

It only leaves me to wish you all and all your families a Happy and Holy Easter.

Yours sincerely,

*Miss Richards*

Headteacher

