

## RE Newsletter Autumn 2

Once again, St Francis have been incredibly busy living out our mission being God's hand on earth as well as learning a lot about our religion. There have been many opportunities this half term to celebrate the amazing things our children have been doing.

### All Saints Day



As a school, we celebrated the feast of All Saints. It was lovely to see the children in their house colours as we marked this Holy Day of Obligation. Reception to Year 4 celebrated All Saints with a Liturgy in school lead by Miss Morris. Year 5 and 6 were due to walk to the church to join in the community service, however the weather was not in our favour. Instead, we moved our classroom around and as year groups, we joined in the Mass virtually. It was lovely to have Father Madders addressing the children and delivering a thought-provoking sermon on being modern day saints.



### Remembrance

Our Year 2 Classes visited the war memorial at St Luke's at Whyteleafe and learnt about the war and the memorial and the war graves. They said prayers for those who lost their lives in the world wars and for those who have lost lives in more recent conflicts. The rest of the school gathered to reflect during the 2-minute silence as well as praying for those around the world affected by conflict.

### Red Wednesday

St Francis joined Catholics around the world on our annual Red Wednesday earlier this term. The day started with a quiet reflection. We reflected on how fortunate we are that we are able to practice our faith safely. Our prayers to God were for him to help those who are being treated unfairly and persecuted throughout the world. We had insightful discussions about how raising awareness is just as important as raising money can be.

### Reconciliation

For the first time, years 5 and 6 had the opportunity to take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation in school. The children were given the time to reflect, before the sacrament. Father Stephen came into school and we are very thankful for his continued support with our school. He will be returning again during Lent for us to take part in Reconciliation again.



### Christmas

Christmas has well and truly arrived at St Francis! We have been blessed to collectively celebrate this season with several performances. This has reminded us what a talented school we have. A big thank you goes to all the adults who have helped to put these together.

Our Reception children have had the opportunity to consider and recreate the Nativity, which was a joy to watch. Year 1 and 2 had a very special Christmas performance, again enjoyed by all. KS2 went to the Sacred Heart for their Christmas concert and allowed us to think about the Christmas story and the real meaning behind the celebrations. Thank you to all our families who were able to join us for these. It has been lovely to all be together.

A special mention has to go to our wonderful choir who have been busy spreading Christmas cheer. They were fantastic at the lighting of the Cedar tree in Caterham, at Westminster and singing in Cobham. Thank you Mrs Hardy for working hard with our choir.

### Silver Cross

Finally, we joined together as a whole community in our annual Silver Cross Liturgy led by Mrs Wheeler. A final reminder to all the children of the importance of the season of Advent and what we are really celebrating.



**The RE team would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Holy Christmastide**

## RE Curriculum – Spring Term

Year 3, 4 and 5 will be continuing to follow our Come and See curriculum and as we start a new year, they will be spending time considering our Local Church.

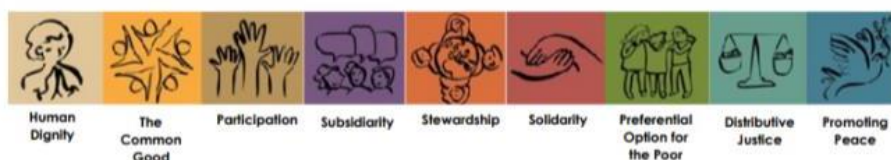
<u>Local Church Community</u>	<u>Eucharist Relating</u>
<b>Year 3 - JOURNEYS</b> - Christian family's journey with Christ	<b>Year 3 - LISTENING &amp; SHARING</b> - Jesus gives himself to us
<b>Year 4 - COMMUNITY</b> - Life in the local Christian community and ministries in the parish	<b>Year 4 - GIVING &amp; RECEIVING</b> - Living in communion
<b>Year 5 - MISSION</b> - Continuing Jesus' mission in diocese (ecumenism)	<b>Year 5 - MEMORIAL SACRIFICE</b> - Eucharist as the living memorial of Christ's sacrifice

Year R, 1, 2 and 6 will be continuing with the new RED and the Spring term starts with 'From Galilee to Jerusalem'.

## CST

Year 3 and 4 had an opportunity to extend their knowledge on Catholic Social Teaching this term when CAFOD came in and ran workshops with these year groups. We have tried to link our values of the month with a CST aspect. These are covered in key stage assemblies, usually by the RE monitors in year 6.

December	Patience	<b>Promoting Peace</b> Being a Peacemaker Daisy the Dove
January	Faith	<b>Stewardship</b> Caring for God's Gifts Sofia the Sloth
February	Caring and Friendship	<b>Human dignity</b> Everyone is special Luc the Deer
March	Forgiveness	<b>Solidarity</b> Showing we care Shristi the Sun bear
April	Courage	<b>Subsidiarity</b> Everyone should have a say Sid the Sheep
May	Peace	<b>Promoting Peace</b> Being a Peacemaker Daisy the Dove
June	Thoughtfulness	<b>Distributive justice</b> Sharing fairly DJ the Dolphin
July	Appreciation	<b>Preferential option for the Poor</b> Putting people in most need first Poppy the Pöpokotea



"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible" St Francis of Assisi