

Catholic Social Teaching

Reception Class Newsletter

At the beginning of the week, all the children discussed the Mission Statement that the class had created earlier in the year. They signed an action for each part of the statement to match the type of behaviours inspired by Jesus. In addition, the children participated in a discussion about the meaning of the school values. The children thought of ways that words and actions could be used to demonstrate the focus class value of compassion. Key words were identified such as kindness, sharing, forgiving and being helpful, which were displayed with pictures to show how the values could be carried out in their lives.

Next, everyone discussed how important it was to look after God's gifts when considering the Reception CST strand, Stewardship for God's creation. They sang 'He's got the whole world in his hands' and created a prayer for the Earth to praise God. The children contributed their ideas to improve the classroom environment and an action plan was written with targets to achieve each term.



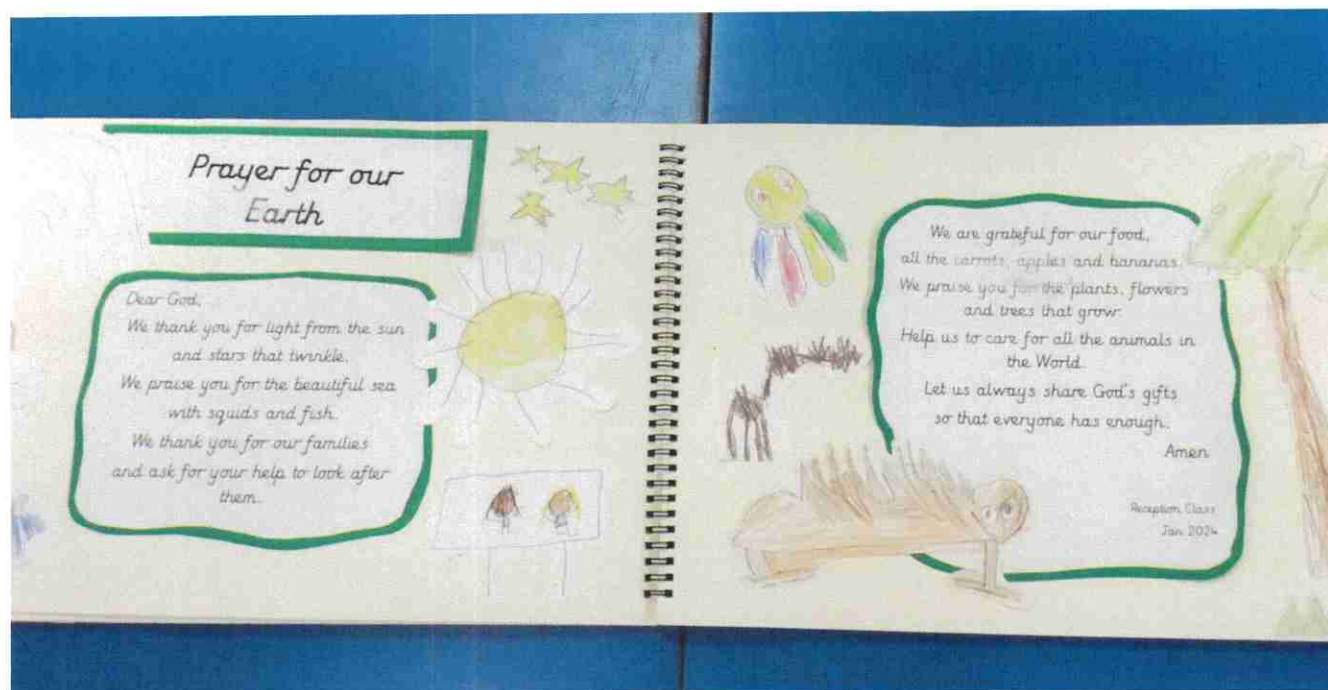
Reception class learnt about how people's actions are changing the climate in our world. They attended special assemblies to learn the song 'Laudato Si' and say 'thank you' for God's creation. Everyone listened to the story of 'The Creation' and the children went outside to make a picture or model to represent what God made each day. In addition, Reception class learnt about important information from the Cafod website about how to share the Earth's resources when caring for our common home. As a result, the children were inspired to think of ways to adopt simpler lifestyles as modelled by St Francis of Assisi. A poster was created to show how using one squirt of soap, recycling materials and only taking food that will be eaten could help save the planet's resources.



Finally, all the children painted a mural for display showing how to live a better life guided by the Gospel teachings.



We then created a prayer for our earth and how we should look after it. We also did work on celebrating our class value of compassion.



4.1.2017

The equipment there are special people in our lives who are there to help us.

Q: What are the things that people do to help us?

Special people in my life.

How do they help me?

Mom

helps me
makes me clothes

Dad

helps me
makes me clothes

Grandma

helps me
makes me clothes

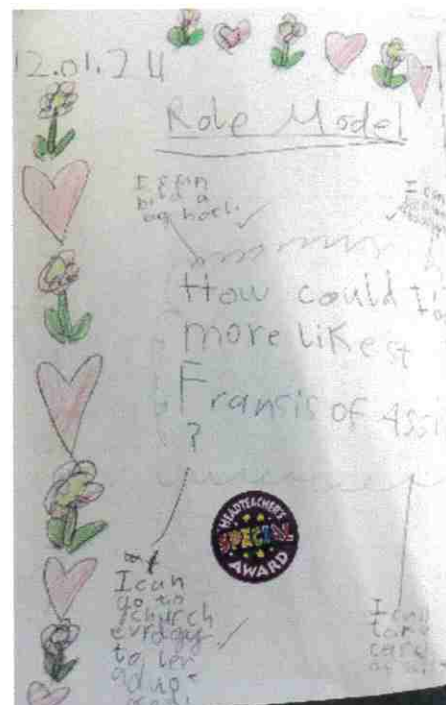
Grandpa

helps me
makes me clothes

We began by talking about the special people in our lives who help to look after us and teach us, the children had many ideas! Then we moved on to consider who has special roles in our

As a school we have had a focus on Ladato Si, Pope Francis' letter on caring for our common home — planet earth. We studied the life of St Francis of Assisi and spent time thinking how we could be more like him, using him as an inspirational role model. The children thought of some great ideas of how they are able to contribute to looking after the planet – to plant some seeds and care for the plants, to feed pets at home and at school, to put food out for the birds, to help with charity work for the poor when given a chance and to always put litter in the bin. The children were given time in our school Peace Garden to create a special picture listening to what God is telling us through nature.

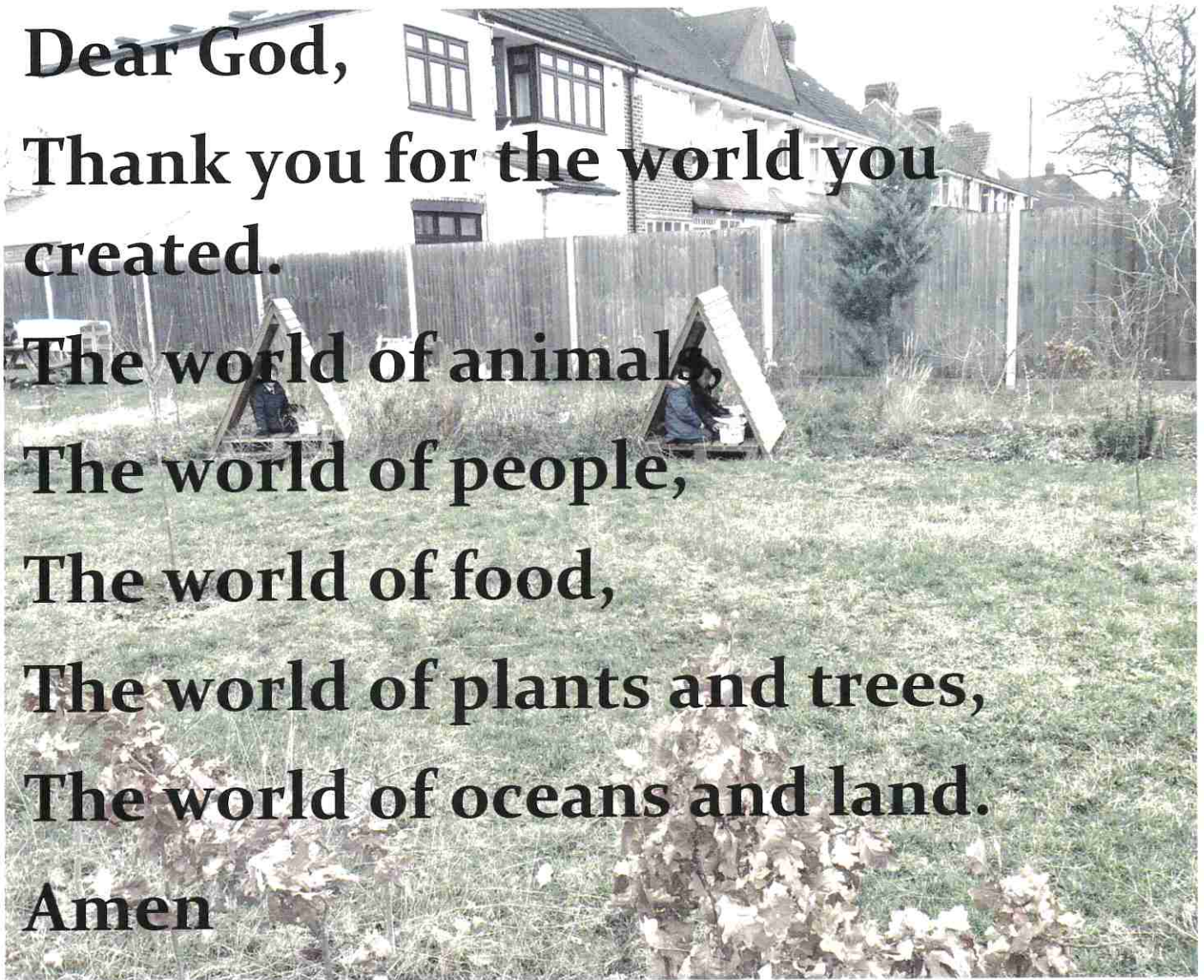
The children have all contributed ideas and artistic skills to this class mural highlighting our class mission statement. The mural also includes ideas about forgiveness (a school value we are collectively working on) and community (a strand from the





Finally we wrote a class prayer for our Earth:

**Dear God,
Thank you for the world you
created.
The world of animals,
The world of people,
The world of food,
The world of plants and trees,
The world of oceans and land.
Amen**



YEAR 2!

During the first week back, Year 2 have been focussing on the RE topic 'Books'. The children started by naming the different types of books they have at home and in school. They then went on to discuss why having books is important.

We then moved on to the type of books we use in our faith. The children looked at the different parts of the Bible and what they mean. We then explored the Gospels - the children chose a Gospel and had a go at re-writing it as if they were there. As a class, we learnt how to use the Hymn books and the order of service.



During the first week and a half, the children have been revisiting our work on the school mission statement, Catholic Social Teaching, while also being introduced to Laudato Si, in line with our Climate change topic.

The children recapped the school mission statement, class mission statement and their catholic social teaching strand. Then, Year 2 created a piece of art work on big calico material based on the work of Hope G. Smith, that included the school mission statement, our catholic social teaching strand and our class value. This will be displayed in the corridor outside the classroom.

While exploring climate change, we looked into Laudato Si and how this is connected, especially with our strand - ecological spirituality. The children went on a walk to explore the nature we could find, and discussed how important it is to look after all of God's creations. At the end of the week, the children used the Laudato Si song to create their own verses to educate people about climate change and why it is important.



Laudato Si

Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!
Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!

Yes, we pray for all your nature
Thank you father for the weather
Climate change is weather measured
We need to help all God's creatures

Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!
Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!

Sun is hot and ice is melting
Floods and storms and heat destroying
Trees and houses are all falling
Now we need to stop pollution

Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!
Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!

Saint Francis helped God's creatures
We should follow his example
Ride your bikes and your scooters
Leave your cars at home and walk!

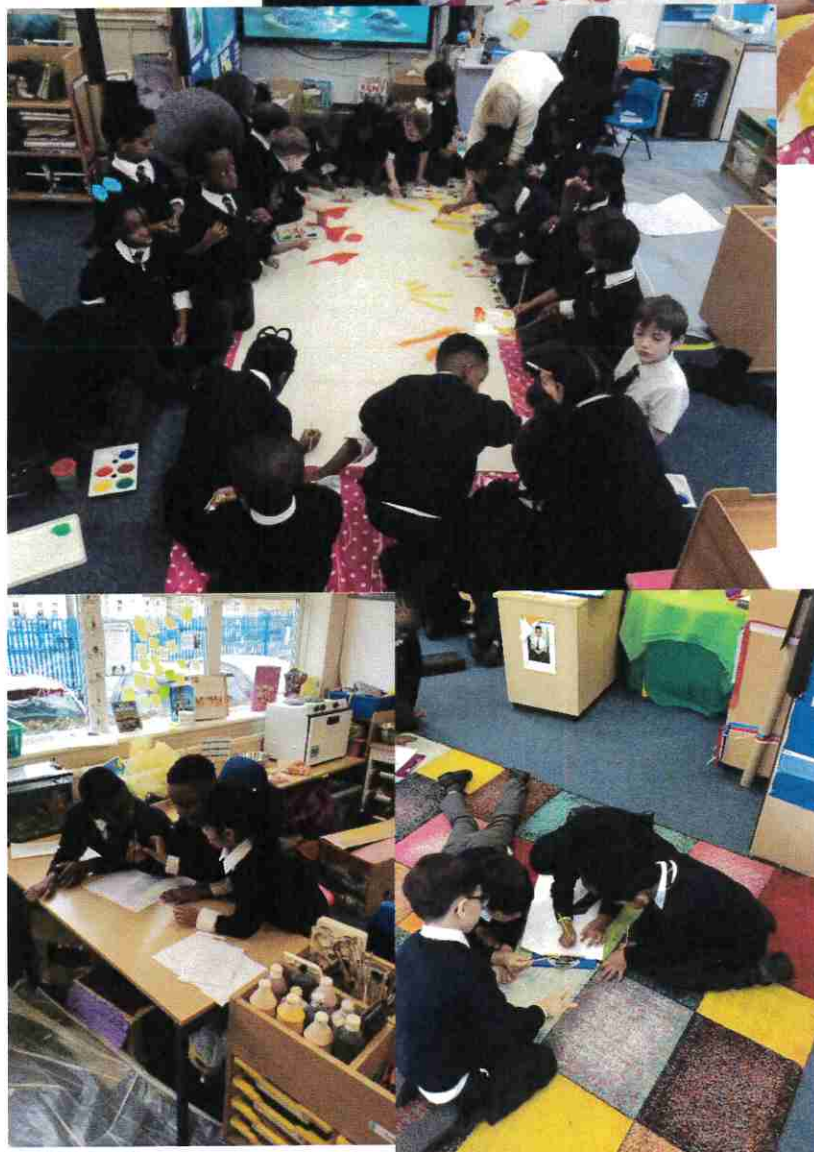
Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!
Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!

Reduce, re-use and recycle.
Keep the earth as God created
He is in everything
Leaders need to stop and think

Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!
Laudato Si, o mi Signore! Laudato Si, o mi Signore!

For God you are our father
It is time to help your world
Save your nature and your creatures
Now we need to tell the others!

Laudato Si, o mi Signore!
Laudato Si, o mi Signore!
Laudato Si, o mi Signore!

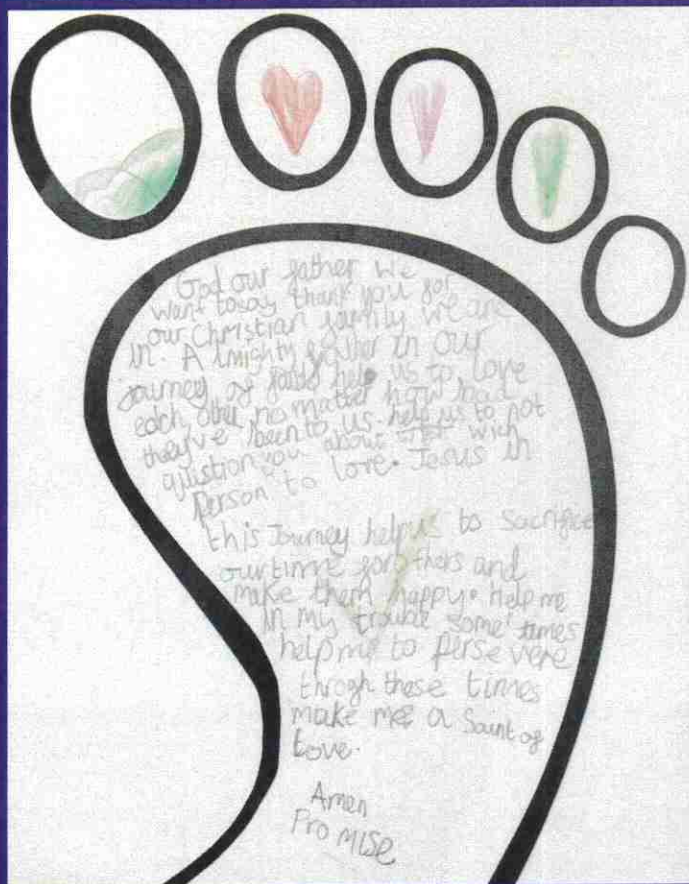


Year 3 – Start of Term 3 RE Newsletter

Happy New Year to you all!

It has been another fast-paced start to this term with a lot of exciting learning going on.

In the newsletter below, you will find out about a number of different RE related activities that children have taken part during the first two weeks of this term.



To begin our RE topic 'Journeys', the children analysed 'Footprints in the sand' and then created prayers about their own journey in faith.



Later in the topic, the children worked with their learning partner to study the Church's Liturgical Calendar.

As a class, we continued to work on our Catholic Social Teaching – the poor and vulnerable. We therefore created friendship stop signs to help those who may be lonely on the playground.



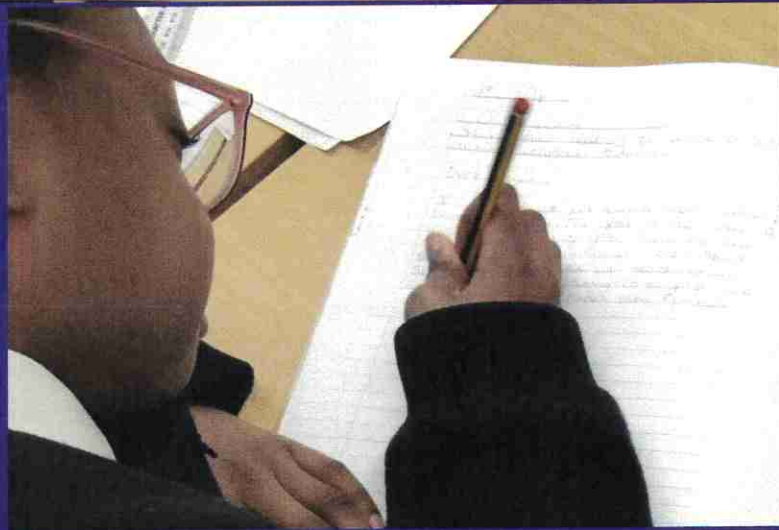
On the Friday of the first week back, we revisited our class value – being humble. We then created this display. As you can see, we created photos showing us being humble and wrote down ways in which we can continue to be humble throughout our time in Year 3. This is now displayed in pride of place on our carpet.



Goal 5: Ecological Education (Year 3)

Year 3's Pledge:

1. We will create a section of books in our school library that embrace the vision of Laudato Si'.
2. We will give a presentation about climate change and show it to the local community (Churchills?). We will also explain the importance of Laudato Si' and give them an information leaflet as well as singing the song to them.
3. During a school day, we will hold a 'No Lights' theme day. We will follow this up by showing people how much electricity has been saved and by providing them with a leaflet about what they can do at home to save electricity.



On Tuesday, we began our Creativity week, Climate Change focus by studying Pope Francis' letter, Laudato Si'. You can see here Michaela working on her letter explaining Ecological Education and Leonel's canticle inspired by St Francis.

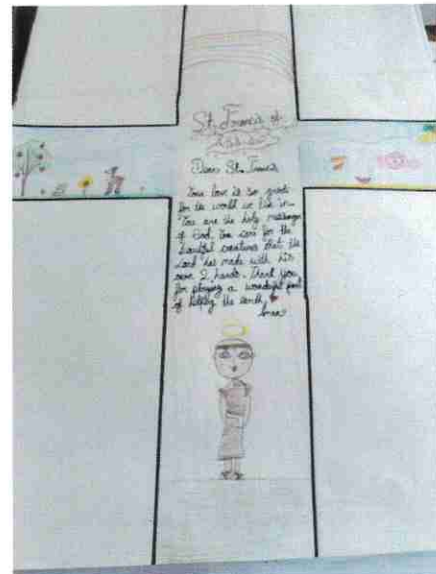
Canticle of our common home
Most powerful, good God no man is worthy
to mention your name. Be praised my Lord
especially through Sister Eky who is bright
blue and brings life to the day. And through
Brother People who brings happiness and life
and move through the Earth. And through
Sister Animals who are wild, free and pure
and of different and life giving royal.

RE Newsletter Year 4

We would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas break. In this newsletter we want to show you the wonderful work that year 4 did the first days back at school.



Year 4 children worked in groups to decide how best to take action in respect to their designated strand of Catholic Social Teaching. They worked really well together to create these action plans and came up with some inspiring ideas, many of which they have already begun to put into place.

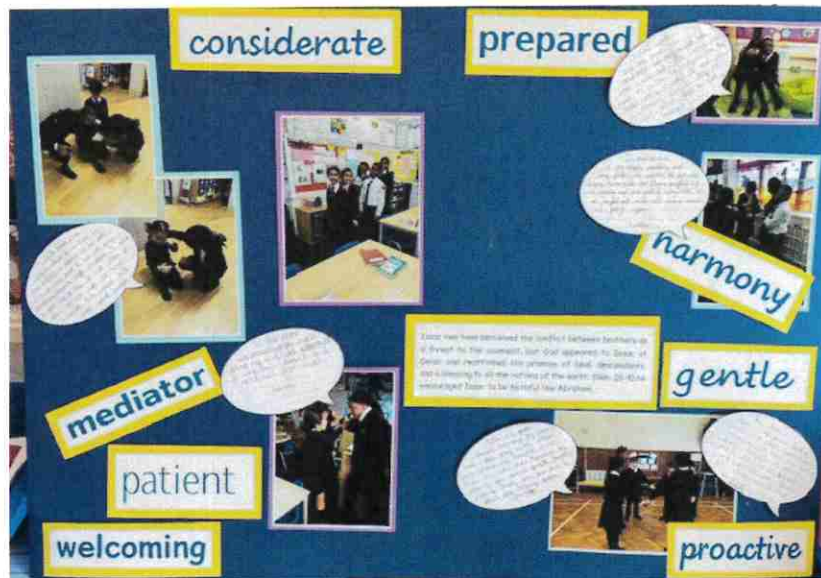


During our topic of RE we focused on Francis of Assisi and all the students of Year 4 designed a cross with a small prayer about him.

On Tuesday 9th January, Year 4 focused on Laudato Si.

To start with we learnt the song 'Laudato Si' and after we been working on Responding to the cries of the earth. We finished this activity by writing a letter to the authorities asking and complaining about the climate change problem.

We created this poster about our school value "Pacemaker". We want to show all the school that Year 4 worked hard to be good pacemakers and we are proud of it.



This is the mural of Year 4 Mission Statement; our class did a beautiful work based on our Mission.



YEAR 5

NEWSLETTER



RE

We started the term by reviewing our school mission statement and the signs for each statement. Year 5 worked collaboratively and created an amazing mural for display. As well as our school mission, our mural depicts our class value 'Faithfulness' and our Catholic social teaching strand 'Dignity of Work and The Rights of Workers'.

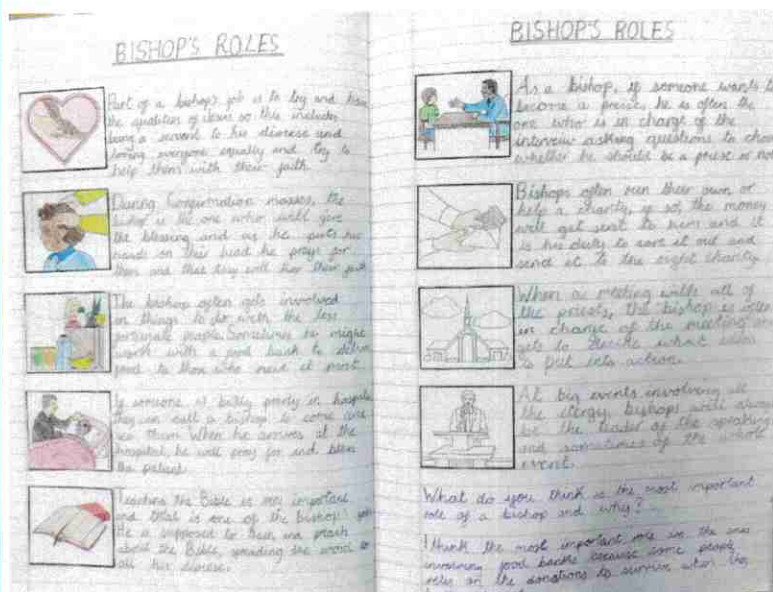
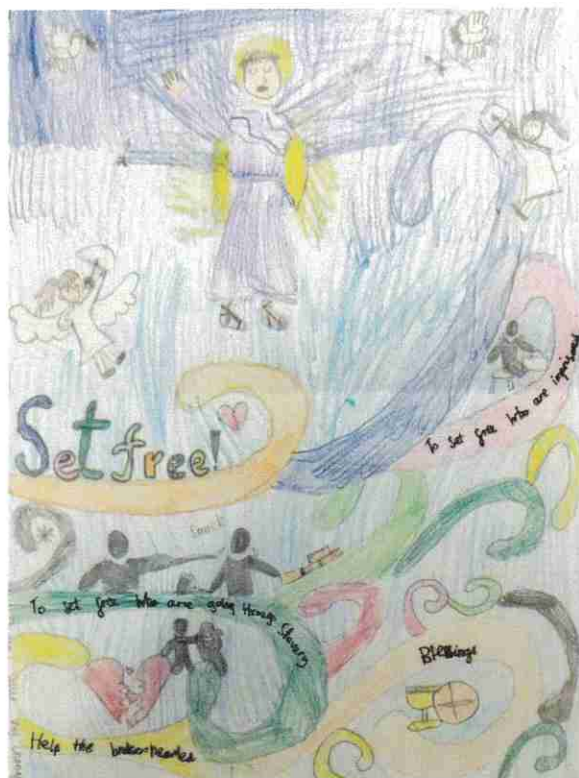


Psalm 33:4 "For the word of the Lord is right and true; He is faithful in all He does."



PAINTING OF OUR MURAL WORK

Our short RE topic was 'MISSION'. We studied the scripture and created art work about Jesus' mission. We also learned about how bishops continue to live out Jesus's mission in life.



WHAT DO BISHOPS DO?



LAUDATO SI AND CREATIVITY

Latin for "Praised Be," Laudato Si' is the name of Pope Francis' encyclical on caring for our common home — planet earth. Year 5 focused on 'Ecological Economies', which is all about how we should consume resources that nature provides us wisely to create a sustainable living. Children also studied St. Francis of Assisi, patron Saint of animals and nature, and created their own canticle of creatures.

Canticles of Creatures inspired by St. Francis of Assisi



My Lord we thank you for the animals that you gave us for company.
 Lord, we admire your creation that you made for us.
 Our Lord we thank you for the nature that you created, for the oxygen and people.
 Most High everliving Lord, we ask you that you bless all the people in the world.

O heavenly Father, most present the creatures from becoming extinct.
 Jehovah, please protect the endangered animals and make sure they are covered in the blood of Jesus.
 Lord, please shine your light on the animals and stop them from being killed.
 Lord God heavenly king, guide the animals into your glory, please show the animals the correct path.
 Please help mother Earth to create a beautiful home for the animals, sister water, provide enough for the creatures.
 Brother sun, please shine your light on the creatures who need it.
 Amen



In class we are learning about Ecological Economies and we learnt about what it means and why it's important. I'm going to share some with you to show you that our environment matters.

Ecological Economies means that we think about ways to keep our environment healthy and a good place for everyone. It's important because we will have a better place and have healthy lifestyles. Some people ignore helping the environment and instead cut down trees, throw away unwanted clothes, throw away food waste, use too much energy such as cars and other things that damage our world. By destroying our world people get sick, animals will die, animals won't have a home, people won't get much money when they work, the planet will lose oxygen and we will see less of God's creation.

Ecological Economies acknowledges that certain things us humans do, are harming the environment. This suggests that we should always be thinking about how we can reuse the resource you are using. As people on this planet, we should strive to be stewards of the Earth.

I am aware that a lot of people are trying to live an ecofriendly lives but imagine if everyone was aware of the destruction Climate Change was doing to our Earth, maybe then we would have a better world.
 As the year 5 class of Our Lady's we pledge:
 • That we will try and eat all our lunches.
 • Carpool when possible.
 • And try to turn off the lights to save electricity.

ECOLOGICAL ECONOMIES

YEAR 6 NEWSLETTER

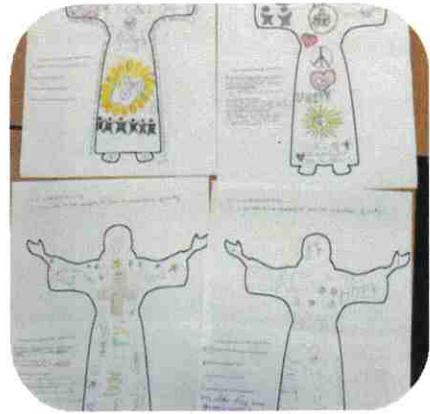
Term 3

January 2024



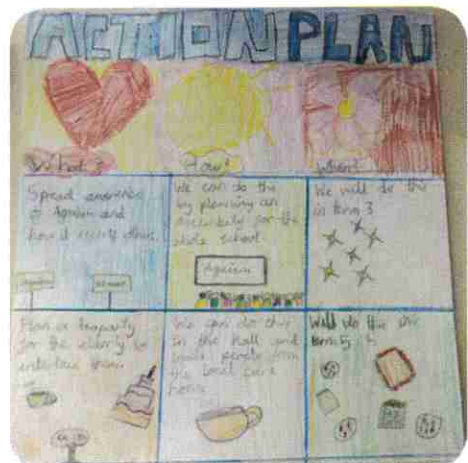
RE - UNITY ★

This term, our focus in Religious Education has been on the topic of Unity. Students enthusiastically delved into our RE topic, exploring various ways to express unity through art. Inspired by the design of Hope G Smith, we collaborated on a collective art piece that embodies our school mission of unity and hope. Working together on calico, we painted vibrant designs that reflect the different facets of our mission, encouraging students to reflect on its significance.

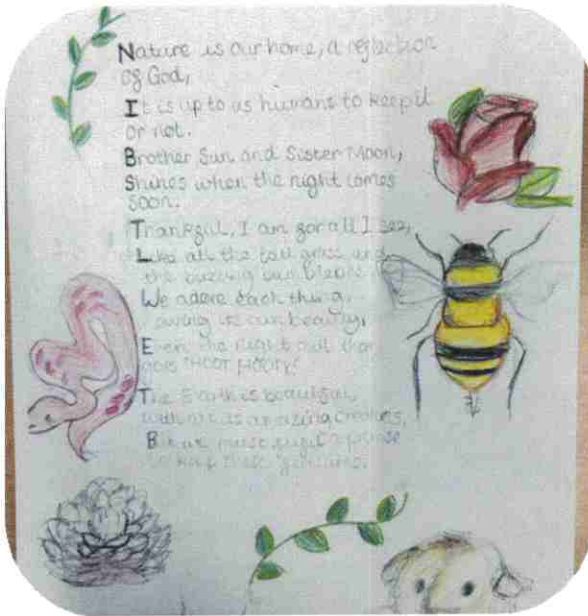


IT'S CREATIVE TIME!

To deepen our understanding of unity, we created posters illustrating what unity means to us, drawing connections to concepts such as Mass and the Eucharist.



CREATIVITY



LAUDATO SI

During Creativity Week, we dedicated the first day to Laudato Si, exploring the teachings of St. Francis of Assisi and his mission to care for our planet. Drawing inspiration from St. Francis, students crafted their own Canticum of the Creatures, celebrating the interconnectedness of all living things. Our Laudato Si goal is community resilience and empowerment, and students have collectively devised plans to promote positive change in our community, including writing letters to our local MP with innovative ideas.

OUR VALUES



Emphasising our class value of service to all, students brainstormed and actively demonstrated ways to serve their fellow pupils. From assisting with schoolwork to organising classroom spaces and replenishing resources, our students embraced the spirit of unity and service.

