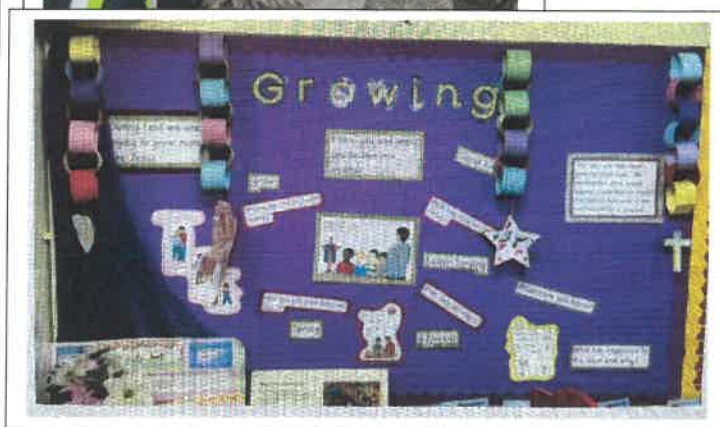


Day of Prayer – Reception Class

To celebrate a special day of prayer, the Reception children went on a 'Prayer Walk' in the local area with Key Stage 1 to appreciate all the gifts that God has given us. They looked at God's creation and were in awe and wonder about the beautiful flowers, trees, birds and all the things to be thankful for in our natural world. It was also noticed that sometimes people do not look after these special gifts and leave litter or destroy living things; this prompted a discussion about what we need to be sorry for also.



On our return, the Reception and Year 1 children combined in their Saint Houses to write prayers that focused on four areas: *Thank you, I love you, Please God help me and I am sorry.* They produced 'Prayer Chains' with related symbols to display in each class.



Later, the Reception children created a '5 Finger Prayer' that Pope Francis introduced. As a whole class, the children offered ideas to dedicate a prayer to close people in our family, for teachers, for leaders, for the sick and weakest, and for themselves. They were very excited to bring this prayer home on balloons so that it could be shared with their families. The prayer was also entered into a 'Prayer Journal' that will be completed throughout the year. In addition, the children were inspired by the lovely resources that Year 6 had made them, including a statue of Mary and 'Class Prayer Book' to use and make prayers at home with their families.



Finally, in preparation for the Lenten season, each child carefully thought about something they would like to give up, pray for or something extra to do during this important time. Each child wrote their 'Lenten Promise' on a cross and decorated it. All the crosses were placed on the class 'Prayer Table' to remind them of how they can try to be like Jesus in their actions.

Day of Prayer in Year 1

We learnt about the four types of prayer in assembly: thanksgiving, adoration, petition and sorrow. To begin putting our learning into action we went on a prayer walk, looking for things that we want to thank God for and things that we want to say sorry to God for. We thanked God for crocuses, birds singing and flying, cars, our legs and food to eat. We said sorry to God for rubbish left on the floor, furniture dumped on the street and chewing gum trodden into the ground.



When we got back to school we wrote prayers of thanksgiving, adoration, petition and sorrow to make a prayer chain.



Later we practised Pope Francis's five finger prayer: a prayer for our friends and family, a prayer for people who look after us, a prayer for people in charge, a prayer for people who are sick and a prayer for ourselves. We wrote our own five-finger prayers that we brought home on balloons.

Finally, we decided what our promises would be for Lent and wrote these on our crosses, we have displayed them in our classroom. Each time we see them we will remember the promises that we made.



Year 2's Day of Prayer

To start our day, Year 2 went on a prayer walk around the local area.

On our prayer walk we looked for things that we should say thank you to God for. The children wanted to say thank you for the plants and the animals.

We also wanted to look for things that we needed to say sorry for. The children wanted to say sorry for the litter.

In the afternoon we looked at Pope Francis' five finger prayer.

The children then created their own 5 finger prayer.

We then stuck these onto balloons to take home and keep.

After our prayer walk, the children split into groups. Their task was to work together to write a prayer based on the four different types of prayer.

St Andrew's focused on I am sorry.

St George's focused on 'Please'.

St David's focused on 'Thank you'

St Patrick's focused on 'I love you'.

The children then wrote their prayer on paving stones and decorated them so they can be displayed in our classroom.

Once we completed this activity, we created our individual prayers during prayerful colouring. This enabled the children to reflect on what they would like to pray to God for.

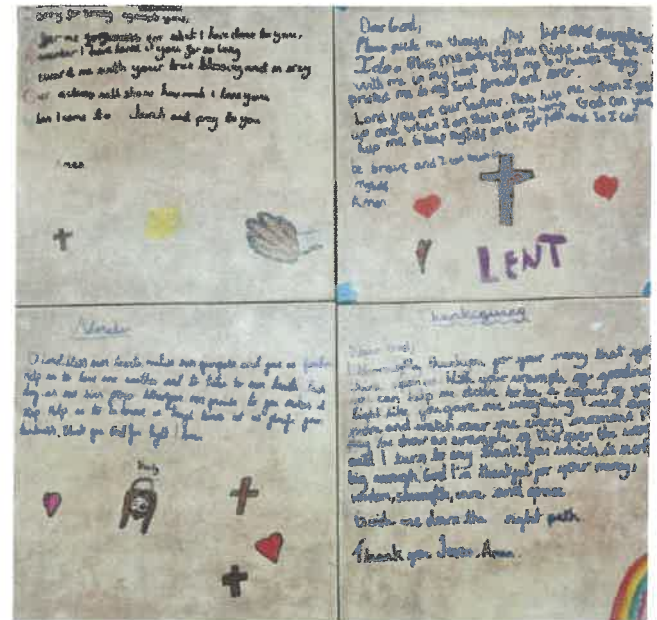
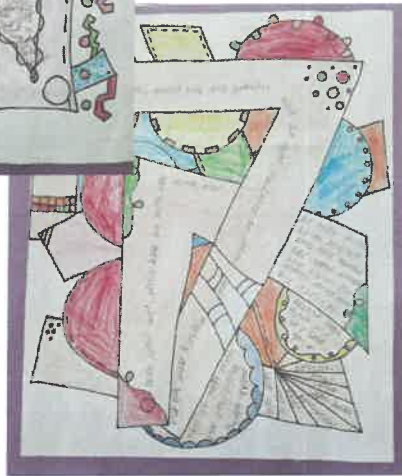


We have looked at Lent and what this means to us.

We discussed the different parts of a Lenten promise. The children then designed their cross and wrote a Lenten promise to keep on our RE focal table to remind us of our Lenten promises.



Year 3 – Day of Prayer



In the morning, Year 3 created their own prayers within their houses based on the four types of prayer: thanksgiving, adoration, petition and sorrow. The prayers were then written on tiles and within their prayerful colouring sheets.



After that, the children chose their Lenten promise and wrote it on a cross; they then decorated the front with beautiful designs.

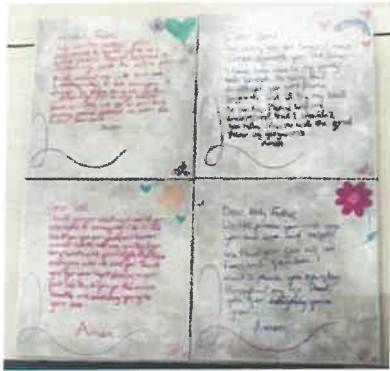
The children then learned about Pope Francis' five finger prayer and looked at examples. They came up with their own prayers in pairs for the five areas: family and friends, teachers, leaders, the weak and poor and then themselves.



In the afternoon, the children designed their own prayer corner. The location we decided on for our thanksgiving prayer station will be by the back door so everyone can see it when they go out for break and lunch, and can remember all the things they are thankful for.

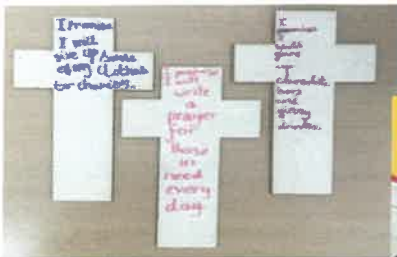


Day of Prayer - Year 4



Shrove Tuesday in Year 4 started with our whole school assembly discussing the importance of The Day of Prayer. We learned that there are 4 different types of prayer. Thanksgiving, Adoration, Petition and Sorrow.

In our Saint houses, we created colourful praying using our own prayer. Each Saint house created a prayer for the 4 different types of prayer we learnt about in assembly. We then incorporated the prayer in to our colouring and put these on display for all to use and enjoy.

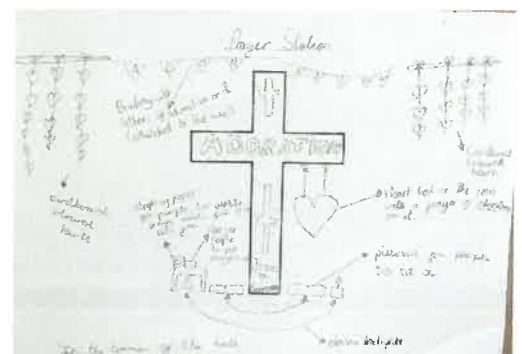


As a class we discussed the main areas that we try to improve on during Lent. We discussed Fasting, Almsgiving and Praying and what these mean for Christians. Individually we created our own Lenten Promise and decorated a crucifix to be displayed on our Prayer table.



Prayer stations are spaces where anyone can go to reflect and have opportunities for prayer. KS2 created designs for prayer stations for the 4 different types of prayer. Year 4's focus prayer has been adoration; in which we praise God. With our learning partner we created a design for a Prayer station which will be placed around our school, which includes decorations and opportunities for praying.

As part of our Day of Prayer celebration, we were introduced to Pope Francis' Five Finger Prayer. Each finger represents the people who we should pray for to help us on our spiritual journey- family and friends, teachers, leaders, the sick and poor and ourselves. We created our own prayers for each finger and have



We finished off our Day of Prayer celebration with some tasty pancakes!



Day of Prayer

YEAR 5



We started the season of Lent by preparing special prayers on Shrove Tuesday. Children learned about different types of prayers, the meaning of Lent and its significance in Christian life. Here are some examples of our day of prayer activities.

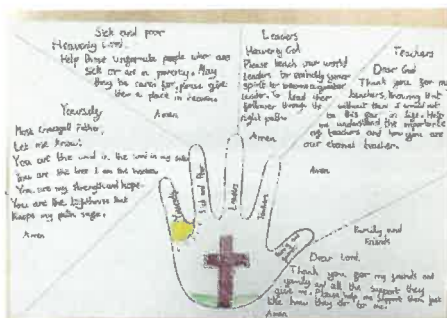
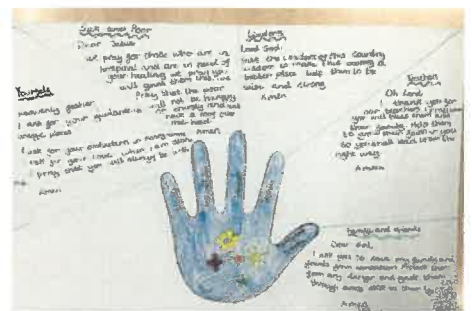
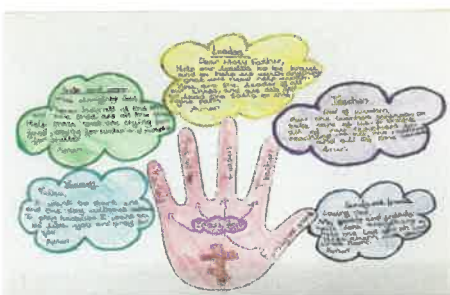
TAPS

These prayers form the basic elements of Christian prayer: Thanksgiving, Adoration, Petition and Sorrow. After learning about the meaning and purpose of each type of prayer, children created their own prayers focusing on one of these themes in groups.



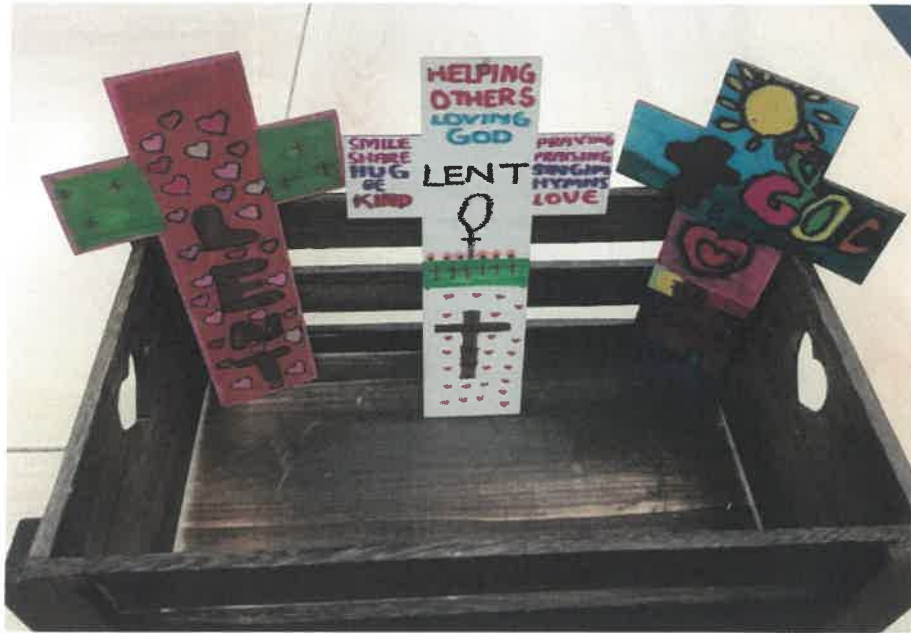
POPE FRANCIS' FIVE FINGER PRAYERS

Children have written prayers for their family and friends, the teachers, the leaders, the sick and the poor, and themselves.



LENTEN PROMISES

Fasting, Almsgiving and Praying are the three main areas that we try to improve on during Lent. Children wrote their Lenten promises and decorated their crosses.



PRAYER STATION

Each year group focused on a type of prayer and designed their crosses for their prayer station. Year 5 prayer station focuses on 'Petition'. Here is our beautifully designed cross.



Day of Prayer – Year 6



Our Day of Prayer began with a whole class assembly led by Miss Quinn. We found out about what prayer is and why we do it, the different types of prayer, some different ways in which we can pray and (with it being Shrove Tuesday) the meaning of Lent. As a class, we also handed out the prayer bags we made for each class at the end of last term. With all of this information buzzing around our brains we were ready to return to class to make a start on an exciting day of activities.

The first activity of the morning was to further understand the acronym TAPS. We found out that it represented the different types of prayer: **T**hanksgiving, **A**doration, **P**etition and **S**orrow. We then split into our houses and worked with a partner to create a prayer about one of the TAPS accompanied by a piece of prayerful colouring. These wonderful and thoughtful creations are now hung proudly in our classroom. We then transferred one of each types of the prayers we had created onto a tile so that it could be displayed around the school.



In the assembly at the beginning of the day, Miss Quinn had also told us about Pope Francis' Five Finger Prayer. Pope Francis used each finger of a hand to represent five sets of people in our lives to think about and to pray for. Hopefully the children should be able to tell you what each finger stands for! As a class we reflected on each group within our own lives and thought about prayers that we could say for these people. We then took the outline of a hand and wrote a prayer to one of the five groups, cut this out and attached it to a balloon ready to take home. By taking this balloon home with them, it will allow the children to reflect on the importance of different significant people in their lives and help them to further reflect and pray during the Lenten season.



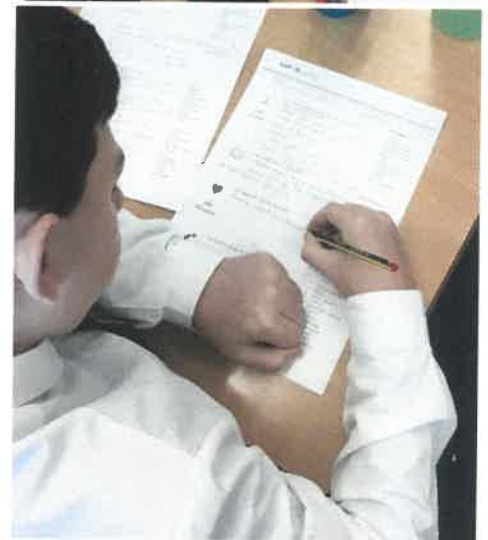
The afternoon began by reflecting on the importance of Shrove Tuesday being the day before Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. We watched a video in which we learnt more about the three ways in which we can become better Christians during Lent: praying, fasting and almsgiving. Following on from this, we created our own Lenten promises which we wrote on one side of our own individual cross, before decorating the other side. These beautifully decorated crosses will stand on the focus table in our classroom as a reminder of the promise we have made to become better Christians this Lent. The children were advised that giving up school for Lent was not an option!



As a class, we were also tasked with designing a prayer station that could be used by the rest of the school; it needed to represent the last part of the TAPS types of prayers, Sorrow. We therefore discussed as a class the best way to decorate the station and where it should be located. After some lengthy negotiation, we decided on a spot near the entrance to the school building. Please keep a look out for our Sorrow Prayer Station that we are in process of putting together.



The final task of the day was to pull all of our learning throughout the day together by planning a collective worship celebration. We worked with our learning partner to create a themed celebration in which we shared and reflected upon scripture, prayers and hymns that were linked to one of themes we have recently looked at. Many of the children chose the theme of our class value, Service to All. Other children chose to focus on the theme of TAPS, whilst a few chose to base their celebration around the 'The Dignity of the Human Person', a strand of Catholic Social Teaching. The children put a great deal of thought into their plans and we look forward to sharing them as a whole class soon.



In all, it was a fantastic day and all the staff were thrilled with the engagement shown and ideas created by the children.

