



St. Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School
"Love one another as I have loved you"

Religious Education and Catholic Life Fortnightly Newsletter Summer 12 and 13



Gospel 'Celebration of The Word'

Key Scripture:

'Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.'

Matthew 13:8



All classes gathered to the hymn 'Come as you are to worship' in the hall. The children were challenged to make links to this hymn and the Gospel message. With the help of Pupil Chaplains, we identified what we needed to make our table a sacred space. The liturgical cloth is green indicating that we are in

Ordinary Time. The candle symbolises that God is present with us. The Cross symbolises that Jesus loves us and the Bible is where God and Jesus speak to us. The Pupil Chaplains set up the Holy table and sang 'Gather Gather'.



Before reading the Gospel we discussed what a plant needs to grow. In addition to support the children to help them understand the Gospel message there was a packet of seeds and a Bible inside the scripture box. The children were invited to listen out for the following words and phrases in the Gospel:

- 'Seeds'
- 'Good soil'

We heard in the Gospel that the farmer keeps on sowing seeds. The seeds land on different parts of the ground.

The children were asked a wondering question... What do the seeds in the parable represent?

Using the scripture box the children worked out that Jesus is teaching that God's Word is like a seed. We are like the soil.

When our hearts are open and ready to listen, God's Word can grow in us and help us do good things.

When we welcome God's Word into our hearts and live it, it grows in us and helps us do many good things for God and others.

We always have opportunities each day to respond to God's Word in our lives.

We discussed ways that help God's Word to take root and grow in the good soil of our hearts.

Some of the children's responses included: Being kind and loving, praying; going to Mass and putting our faith into action by helping others.

Jesus shows us that God gives us everything that is good. He 'plants' His life-giving Word in our hearts, and we can help it to grow through our loving actions. When we show kindness, honesty, patience and do our best to show

love to those around us – we are like the good soil and God’s life-giving Word grows in us.

We reflected on times when our heart was not like the good soil. Even in times of challenge God is always with us and He always loves us.

We thought about those times and said sorry for the times we did not make the right choice.



Reflection:

How can you be like the good soil through loving words and actions this week?

End of term reflection



The children were invited to reflect on the school year. It was highlighted that the end of the year is a good time to give thanks for:

- All the good things we’ve received
- Exciting opportunities we’ve been given
- How we have grown over the year

In addition the children were reminded children that this is also a good time to remember that God has been with them every step of the way and is with them as we look forward, in hope, for good things to come in the new year ahead

Pupil Chaplain interactive Prayer Area



As a follow-up from the Gospel 'Celebration of the Word', the Pupil Chaplains have created an interactive prayer table in the hall where they have created a display which focuses on The Holy Spirit.

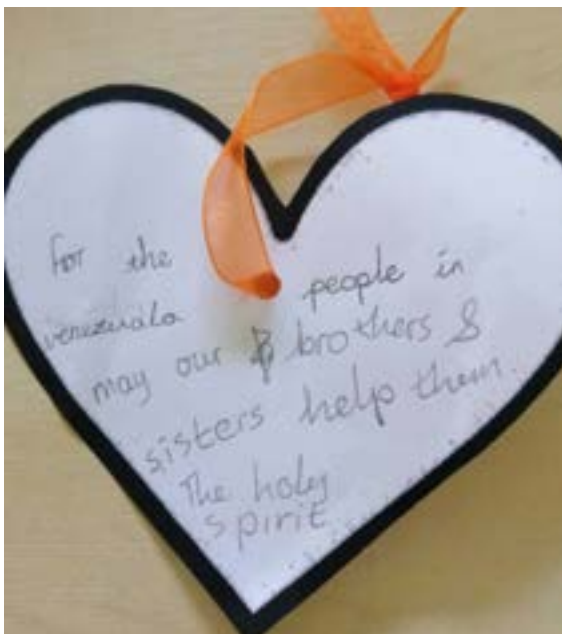
This visual display is a reminder of how God sent the gift of The Holy Spirit to encourage and guide us to continue Jesus' mission of loving and helping each other.



Children and staff have been writing prayers to ask the Holy Spirit to help and guide them to spread God's love.

It has been moving to read the prayers that the children have written, especially the prayers for their brothers and sisters who have been affected by the earthquake in Venezuela.

Prayers written by the children:



Response:

Encourage your child to write a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to guide them this week.

St Elizabeth's Prayer of the Month-June

Each month St Elizabeth's School community says a prayer which focuses on the liturgical season. At present we are in the month of July.



Act of Love

My God, because you are so good,

I love you with all my heart,

and for your sake,

I love your neighbour as myself

Amen

The Prayer Act of Love is a simple prayer in which we tell God that we love Him and choose to love others because He first loved us. It is a way of expressing our love, gratitude, and commitment to God.

Mass celebrating St Elizabeth's Feast Day



On Monday 6th July, Fr Stephen celebrated our St Elizabeth feast day Mass.

During the homily, Fr Stephen shared St Elizabeth's life story with us.

He shared that St Elizabeth lived her life based on the teaching of Jesus

He highlighted three significant aspects of her life:

St Elizabeth had a 'heart for the poor'. She helped the poor and hungry in her local town.

St Elizabeth was a peacemaker. She stopped a war between her husband and sons.

St Elizabeth was a leader. She had the courage to fight injustices of that time and to help those who were in need.

Fr Stephen highlighted that St Elizabeth is a great role model for us all and we can use her example in our lives by putting our faith into action, being a peacemaker and being a leader for the good of others.

Thank you to Year 3 for reading the first reading and writing the 'Prayers of Intercession' and to Schola and the liturgical band for the singing and music.

Thank you to Fr Stephen for celebrating Mass.

Celebration of the word led by Reception



Reception led a 'Celebration of the Word' to all classes and to Reception parents based on the theme of love.

The Reception children set up the Holy Table with a green cloth, Bible, candle and cross and explained their symbolism.

The children read scripture for John's Gospel- 'Love one another as I have loved you'.

Reception shared that this is our school's motto- They shared that Jesus said these words at the Last Supper. Jesus wants us to love and look after each other.

The Reception children asked, 'How do we show love to each other'?

The Reception children responded and modelled that we grow in love and friendship when we are kind, when we share and when we forgive and say sorry.

The whole school community was given a mission-to look for opportunities to show love today.



Pupil Leadership Catholic Life and Mission

At St Elizabeth's, pupil leadership is very important. Every week there are many opportunities for the children to get involved in the Prayer life and in the Catholic Life and Mission of our school.

We have completed the process of selecting Pupil Chaplains for 2026-27

For next academic year there are twenty Pupil Chaplains and Mini Vinnies to lead prayer and liturgies and to organise fundraisers to support those in need.





Summer 2 charities: St Vincent de Paul and Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)

Pupil Chaplains and Mini Vinnies have chosen two charities to support this half-term: Vincent de Paul and DEC which is supporting victims of the Venezuelan earthquake.

The Pupil Chaplains and Mini Vinnies are putting their faith into action by organising fundraisers that the whole school can participate in.

Vocal concert

Children from Key Stage 2 participated in a vocal concert to support our two charities.

Our Vocal Concert was a celebration of our children's musical talents.

Through their performances, the pupils used their gifts to raise money for our school charities. Every song reflected not only their hard work and enthusiasm but also their commitment to help their brothers and sisters in need.

Thank you to all the children who sang to raise money for their brothers and sisters in need.



Oliver

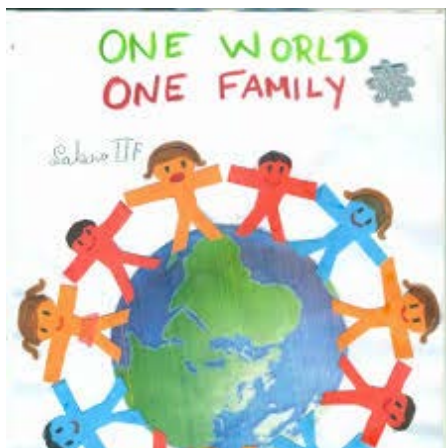
Our Year 6 end-of-year production of *Oliver!* was a celebration of our pupils' hard work, creativity, and confidence as they reach the end of their primary school journey. This special performance was also an opportunity for our children to put their faith into action by raising funds for our school charities.



Through your generosity and support, we will be making a positive difference to the lives of those experiencing hardship and to all those affected by the earthquake

Thank you to all children and families for supporting these charities this half-term .

World Cup project



We have had a fantastic response to our summer term World Cup project. Thank you to all the children who have taken part.

We have been particularly impressed with the creativity of the projects, as well as the research that children have undertaken into the various cultures, foods, clothes and languages of countries in the World Cup. The children have had the opportunity to share their projects in class or assembly.

Examples of some of the projects:





Wednesday Word

'The Wednesday Word' is a weekly Gospel 'gift' from school to each family. Each week the Sunday Gospel is sent out via the link below into school family homes through the 'Wednesday Word'.

Through this resource, the key message(s) from the Gospel is shared.



Response: Please take the 'Wednesday Word' to Mass on Sunday.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for the month of July



The Holy Father, Pope Leo, asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. We are all invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month.

Pope Leo wants our prayers to be transformed into concrete actions.

Pope Leo's prayer intention for the month of July invites us to pray

'for respect for human life,' so all may 'recognize and protect the unique and unrepeatable value of every human being.'



Response:

We pray that we recognise each other's talent and gifts and that every person is treated with dignity and respect.

Have a happy and restful summer

With thanks for your support of the Catholic Life of our school,

Mrs Diver and the Pupil Chaplains