

St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary
School

Growing Together in God's Love



Religious Education Newsletter

7th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Each half term we will be sharing with you some of our learning in Religious Education as well as what we are doing to live out the Gospel values in our Catholic life.



As you know, we have now achieved our Live Simply Award and St Thomas of Canterbury is officially a Live Simply School! We are extremely proud of the work we have done to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with our global family and to have this work recognised.

Thank you to all the staff, children and their families for working on this journey together.

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

This year is a special Jubilee year for the Catholic church.

All members of the global family are called to participate. It is a time to grow in faith and prayer; a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another and with all of creation. During this Jubilee year, school staff and pupils, along with their families and parish communities are asked to remind themselves that Christ and the values He taught are central to who we are and what we do. Following Christ and being examples to others makes us Pilgrims of Hope which is the theme for this Church Jubilee year.



We shared a lovely assembly and worship to launch this very special event for the church and we have lots of ideas, activities and fundraising opportunities to explore with the children as we journey on our pilgrim of hope and bring hope to others throughout 2025. We look forward to sharing them with you as we go along.



To Know You More Clearly

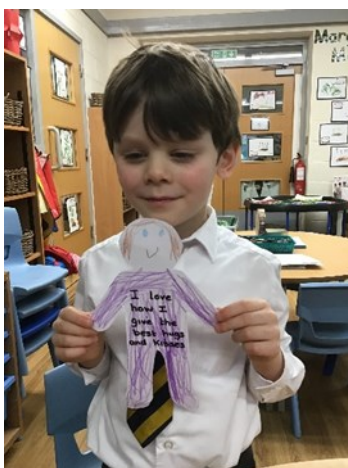
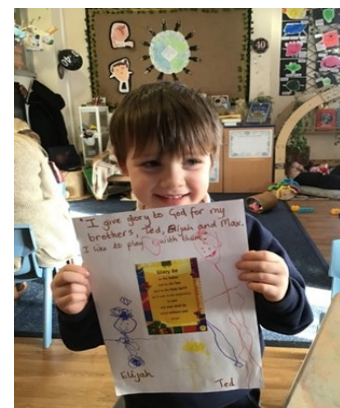
We now have Foundation Stage, Year One, Year Two and Year Three working on the new Religious Education Directory 'To Know You More Clearly.'

NURSERY

In the topic Galilee to Jerusalem, Nursery listened to the Glory Be prayer and learned that it is a way for us to show how thankful we are to God for giving us the most precious gift, his son Jesus.

RECEPTION:

In the topic Galilee to Jerusalem, Reception thought about how we show love to everyone in our words and actions as Jesus does. The children listened to the scripture 'love one another as I have loved' John 13:34-35 and thought about what loving one another means.





To Know You More Clearly

YEAR ONE:

Year One have been working on the topic Galilee to Jerusalem and they thought about how they could follow Jesus.

They created fish and wrote down ways that they could follow in His footsteps.

E.g. We can follow Jesus by cheering up our classmates who are feeling sad.

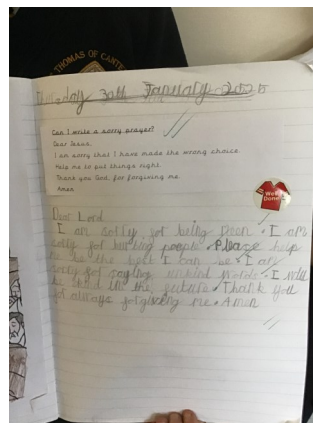
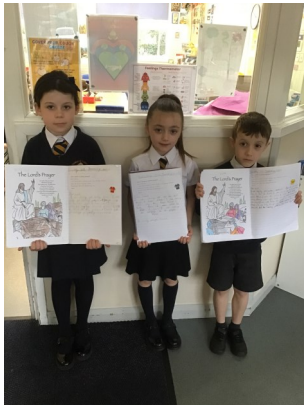




To Know You More Clearly

YEAR TWO:

Y2 looked at the Lord's prayer in the topic Galilee to Jerusalem and talked about the language used and what it means. Then, they wrote their own sorry prayers, thinking about how they can follow in Jesus' footsteps.



YEAR THREE:

Year 3 have been working on their third topic Galilee to Jerusalem.

They listened to scripture from Matthew 'The Parable of the Sower' and discussed how the seed in the parable is God's word.

We can listen to God's word but not always hear it but when we truly listen and hear God's words, like the seed, it will flourish and this is how God's kingdom grows.



Come and See

YEAR FOUR:

Y4 read letters from St Paul as part of their Community topic.

The children acted out scenarios to show how they can live out God's words in their daily lives.



In Year 4 we have read St Paul's letter to the Romans as part of our Community topic. The children then acted out different scenarios to show how we can live out God's word in our daily lives.



Come and See

YEAR FIVE:

Group	What do they do?	What part of Jesus' mission does this fulfil?	Where else can this be seen?
St Paul	Help people in need	Jesus said, "Follow me." He helped the poor and oppressed.	Story of the 'Good Samaritan' (Luke 10, 25-37 p100 GS3)
	Care food to push all over the world.	He shares everyone to share with his love.	The feeding of the 5000 (Mathew 14:13-21)
	Helps animals in need.	Made them strong and is loved by all.	Nowak's Ark (Genes 6:19)
	Helps blind animals like the World of egg market.	Every animal should have the strength they need.	Participating humans can't be from Louisiana!
St Paul	Provide money for people who can't afford it.	Helps poor all people who don't have anything.	When Jesus said "I will help you" (Mathew 25:31-46)

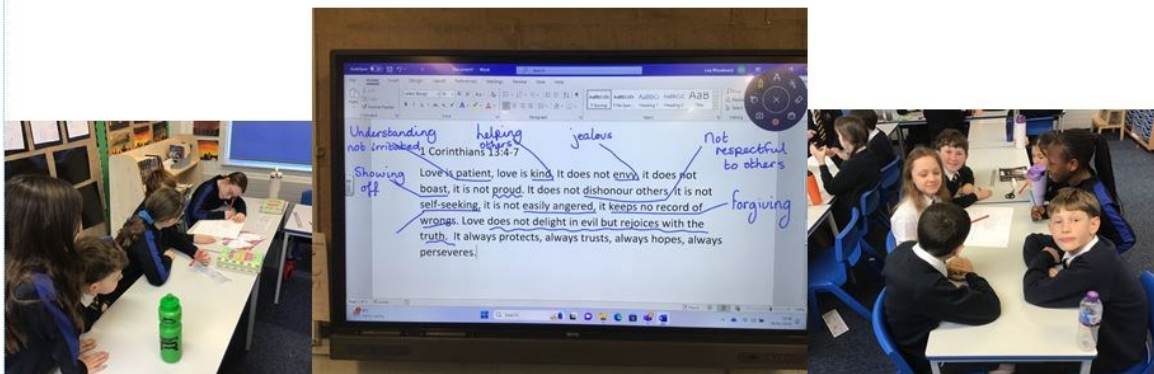
Year 5 researched different charities and what they do to help others. They then made links between these and Jesus' mission before using scripture to show when Jesus did this.



YEAR SIX



In our Sources topic Year Six looked at the scripture 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 and brainstormed how different our world, school and community would be if everyone lived out this scripture in their everyday lives.



Prayer and Liturgy



Every day we have prayer and liturgy in our classrooms or together as a whole school community.

During Prayer and liturgy we listen to God's word from the Bible and take time to reflect on the key messages.

This week we celebrated the feast of Candlemas, the celebration of the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple.

Traditionally we use candles to pray at this festival to remember Simeon's description of Jesus as a 'light' to the world.

It reminded the children that we all need to let our own light shine for others to see, bringing hope to all we meet.



Catholic Life



Our lovely Mrs Mills has recently donated her beautiful locks to

'The Little Princess Trust'

and has raised £200 so far for this wonderful charity. The Little Princess Trust provides real hair wigs to children and young people up to the age of 24 who have lost their own hair through illness and the side effects of treatment.

It also funds childhood cancer research, searching to find kinder and more effective treatments.

Well done Mrs Mills!



Coming up...



Next half term, we will once again be taking part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk to raise money for our global brothers and sisters overseas.

We would like to link this in with our newest venture Pilgrims of Hope and will be asking the children to come into school wearing a colour from the Jubilee logo (red, blue, yellow or green).

They will take part in a walk for creation where we will partake in short prayer and worship along our walk just as pilgrims would do.

We will also be taking part in lots of activities to celebrate the Jubilee of the church.

More details will be given in the School Newsletter.

Best wishes

Mrs Houghton RE subject leader.

