



STAY & PRAY

Years 1, 5 & 6 attended the Mass with the parish over the last few weeks and Reception classes visited the church on Tuesday 7th March.

RECONCILIATION

Thank you to Fr. Matthew and Fr. Britto for visiting our school and giving the children this very important Sacrament of Reconciliation.

St. Joseph's is a joyful community which follows the example of Jesus, helping, accepting and respecting everyone, as we learn and grow together, safe in His love.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

On Wednesday 1st March RW enjoyed welcoming their loved ones in for their very first-class assembly! Our theme was St. Joseph, the Patron Saint of Families and we were very proud to show and celebrate how wonderfully the children have settled into life as part of our school family.

Thursday 9th March - In 3DT's class assembly they shared their learning from the school year so far. They shared their favourite Bible stories and wrote their own thoughtful prayers. Through their dramatic re-enactments they took viewers back in time to the rebellion of Boudicca. All of the children worked hard to deliver their role with confidence. Well done 3DT, we are very proud of you!

On Thursday 16th March RD thoroughly enjoyed celebrating their Assembly with our parents and friends in school. We worked as a team to learn all our words and actions for our songs and stories. We all wore our smiles that day! We were privileged to do our assembly during this special time of Lent when we remember that Jesus is at the Centre of all we do. Well done RD.



Music Festival

Year 2 took part in the Infant Singing Festival which was held at Engayne Primary School. They performed 'Out in the Garden', and then joined the other schools in singing a range of songs about animals. They sang beautifully. We were incredibly proud of them.

THE ARTS



On Friday 17th March the whole school celebrated St. Patrick's Day. Everyone wore something green to mark the occasion. We are very lucky to have fantastic Irish Dancers among our students and we all enjoyed their performance during the assembly.

Year 5 Road safety Theatre Performance



On Friday 17th the children in year 5 attended a performance focused on road safety and clean air. The children met Miles the Mole and his friends as they explained how we can all play a part in keeping the air in Havering clean. By being both fun and informative the children were able to learn what gasses make up the air around us and how keeping it clean is good for all our health. They also learned new strategies such as walking to school which can benefit our whole school community.



Dear Parent Due to ongoing food inflation and the cost of living crisis that is impacting all food supply chains, HES Catering decided to increase the price of your child's school meal. The price for a school meal effective from 1st April 2023 will be as follows: KS2 £2.45

SPORTS News

Year 6 Quarter Finals.

The Girls' football team took part in the league quarter finals at UJS versus Gidea Park Primary. The team was unlucky to miss out on a semi-final place losing 1-0 in what was a very close game. Player of the match was awarded to Annabella of 6B. Well done to all of the team for their commitment and show of teamwork.



The girls were wearing our brand-new football kit. It was donated to us by AQUINAS EDUCATION who have been working alongside us this year. A big thanks to Sam, Ashleigh, Jack and all at Aquinas.

<https://aquinaseducation.com/>

Year 2 Hall Athletics

Children from Year 1 & 2 took part in an athletics day at Hornchurch Sports Centre. They had a great afternoon taking part in the various activities including jumping, throwing and bowling. We did brilliantly well in the relay, finishing first and second in both of the heats.

Year 4 enjoyed sharing their Maths workshop. They demonstrated the Year 4 methods for the four operations to their parents and then began some work on fractions. It was great to share their learning.

This week, the whole school is working together to walk as far as possible to raise money for **Cafod's Big Lent Walk**. Each class has made a commitment to walk a certain distance each day. The easiest way to donate is by using the link below to access our donations page <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/lauren-shepherd/post/2549975>. Alternatively, you can download the sponsor form which was sent via Parentmail and send in donations to the school, where they will be added to our page as an 'offline donation'. Thank you for the generous donations which have already been made.

ATTENDANCE

The whole school attendance 01/09/2022 – 23/03/2023 is 94.88%

Attendance at school is so important. Children who fall into a pattern of poor attendance are likely to underachieve at secondary school. Pupils who miss between 10% and 20% of school (that's 19 to 38 days per year) stand only a 35% chance of achieving five or more good GCSEs, compared to 73% of those who miss fewer than 5% of school days. Friendships can be affected by persistent absence, too: it can be hard for a child who misses lots of school to form relationships with their classmates.

Year 1 Workshop

Year 1 children learned how to use 'and' to link two ideas together. They also practised using a capital letter and full stop correctly. Thank you to the parents who attended and supported the children with this. They enjoyed showing you all their fantastic writing!

Thank you for your continued support.



Parents of Year 6 pupils were invited to a **Maths workshop** on Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th March. Parents and pupils alike were put through their paces with some challenging word problems which involved using the four operations.



On Monday 20th March, the community of St. Joseph's celebrated the Feast Day of the patron of our school. We came together to celebrate Mass together. The liturgy leaders did a tremendous job reading in Mass and thank you to Fr Matthew for leading our celebration. During the day, all the children took part in an activity involving wood, to recognise St. Joseph's job as a carpenter. The Infants made lolly stick crosses and the Juniors all made a tea light holder.

We are so grateful to Mrs Doe, Ms Qurrey and the staff at Sacred Heart of Mary Girl's School for all their support preparing the resources for the Juniors. As part of the celebrations, many pupils created artwork of St. Joseph at home and we were overwhelmed with the number of pieces that were sent in. We were told that the parishioners were thrilled to see the children's work around the church to mark such a special day.

The children in Years 3 and 4 worked extremely hard to prepare an Easter performance. They highlighted the true meaning of Easter and retold the Easter story very well. The acting and singing were superb and we were very proud of all of the children. Well done!

On Tuesday 23rd March, four Year 6 children attended the **Annual Rotary Quiz** at Parsonage Farm. Against tough competition, the children were proud to come second place, just behind Scotts Primary School. Whilst they didn't get an automatic place in the final, there is hope they will still gain a place, getting through as one of the highest scoring second places. Here's what some of the children had to say:

Year 3 Roman day
Salve! On Thursday, Year 3 transformed into Romans. They spent the morning living the life of a Roman soldier living in Britain. They were tasked with creating **excellent** mosaics, perfumes, wax tablets and other Roman artefacts. In the afternoon, while enjoying a Roman feast, the children worked in teams to create drama and dance performances based on Roman history. A very enjoyable day was had by



"I loved the quiz and I really wanted to win. I was really proud of my team."
- John Paul

"I was so happy to represent St. Joseph's. Some of the questions were really challenging but some were quite easy. I really hope we get into the final." - Owen

Online Safety
Please take some time to read the attached guide: **'Helping children and young people with managing device stress and anxiety.'**



On 21st and 23rd March 2023, Year 5 teachers organised an Interactive Writing Workshop: Planning an eye-witness report. The focus of this workshop was to establish the importance of steps in planning and how it can lead to creating effective writing, which is enjoyable for the reader.

As Year 5 have been studying "Macbeth", Year 5 children decided to focus on the scene of Macbeth plotting to kill his friend, Banquo.

Later that day, children used their planning sheets to guide them when writing a witness report. We are currently in the process of editing the outcomes of this learning journey and our final drafts will be displayed outside Year 5, for other children and adults to enjoy.



Please be reminded to make a payment for Year 3 Roman Day if you haven't already done so.



Goodbye Mrs Brailey

We are all really sad to say goodbye to Mrs Brailey this week. After joining the school in 2012, she has always given over and above in terms of help, support, time and care to so many pupils, parents and staff. We wish her a wonderful retirement and on behalf of the whole community, I want to say a huge THANK YOU for everything she has done for us.

Class Easter Egg Raffle

The children enjoyed the opportunity to win an Easter egg in their class raffles. We hope the winners enjoy sharing their egg with their family! A big thank you to the Fayers family for their generous donation, in memory of their son David.



From Fr Matthew: This coming week we commemorate our salvation through the death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. You are of course welcome to join in any of the Holy Week and Easter services, but you are especially invited to Stations of the Cross for Children at 9am on Good Friday morning. You probably know that this year is the centenary for our parish and as part of our celebrations we are holding a Festival in Upminster Park on Sunday 23rd April, with live music and real ale, cream teas and fun inflatables. You can pre-order wrist bands for the inflatables and prize draw tickets via our website: stjosephschurchupminster.com/centenary - you can also find out more about our centenary appeal and contribute to the new prayer garden and bell. Happy Easter to you!



Resurrection Light

Risen Christ, when darkness overwhelms us may your dawn beckon.

When fear paralyses us may your touch release us.

When grief torments us may your peace enfold us.

When memories haunt us may your presence heal us.

When justice fails us may your anger ignite us.

When apathy stagnates us may your challenge renew us.

When courage leaves us may your spirit inspire us.

When despair grips us may your hope restore us.

And when death threatens us may your resurrection light lead us.

Amen.

Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD

Wishing all of our families

a happy and Holy Easter.

We look forward to seeing you all again

on 17th April.

Prayers for Eastertide from the CAFOD website

"They took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices." John 19.40

You are the resurrection

How wonderful, Lord Jesus, you came back

You suffered death but conquered it

You laid in the tomb but on the third day you rose again

O joyful day, Lord Jesus, when you returned

You are the resurrection, our hope and our life

O glorious and victorious Redeemer

Help us not to be afraid of death

For we must pass through it to see you face to face

And on the last day we will rise again for you said so

Let us rejoice and praise you

Our Blessed and triumphant Lord

On this happy, joyful feast.

Amen.

Diana Ng-Sutherland/CAFOD

We are happy to share NELFT's Instagram account. You can follow them @mhsthaving if you would like helpful tips on emotional wellbeing and other interesting content.