



Loving and learning together, with Jesus



This week we celebrated the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday Service that the whole school attended.



We all reflected on what small things we can do during the period of **Lent**.

Some ideas from the Y1 children:

- Pray each night – Max Y1
- Smile at others – Lois Y1
- Be kind to others - Jimmy Y1
- Help your friend when they need you – Lenny Y1
- Include others with in your games – Elspeth Y1
- Sing more hymns – Diya Y1
- Say please and thank you to everyone - Max and Jimmy Y1
- Help your family – Lenny Y1
- Help someone when they don't know what to do – Jimmy Y1
- Help others when they are down – Diya Y1

## Catholic Social Teaching

For our last newsletter, we looked at the principle of **Distributive Justice**.  
This week, we are focusing on:

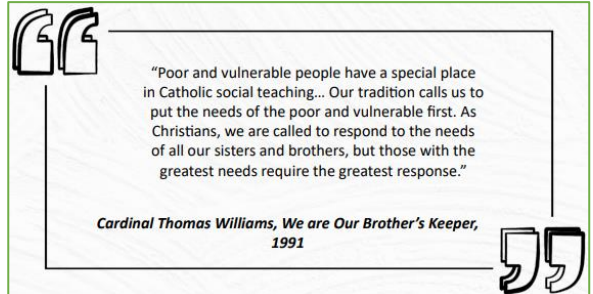
### Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

Giving preferential option for the poor means we should feel the need to think first of the needs of those who are most vulnerable. Christ taught that when we feed the hungry, offer hospitality to the stranger, clothe the naked, look after the sick and visit those imprisoned, we are looking after **Him**.



#### What can you do?

- Encourage each other to participate in service projects like food drives, homeless outreach, and clothing donations
- Write letters to local leaders about issues like housing, education, and wages
- Pray for those around the world who don't have access to all their basic needs



#### [7 Catholic social teaching principles](https://www.caritas.org.nz/catholic-social-teaching/preferential-option-for-the-poor-and-vulnerable)

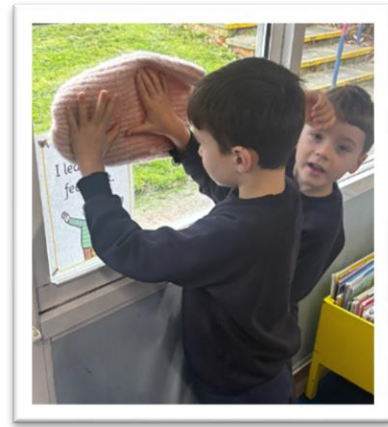
<https://www.caritas.org.nz/catholic-social-teaching/preferential-option-for-the-poor-and-vulnerable>

# CURRICULUM IN ACTION

## KS1

### Science in Year 1

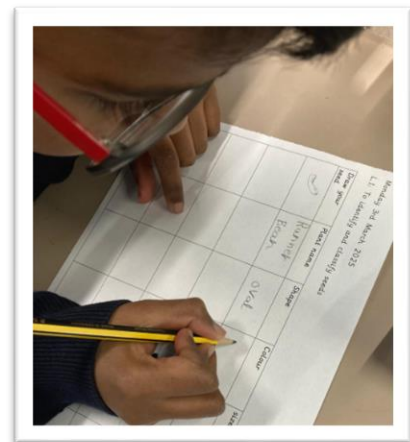
Investigating properties of materials  
Which material would be most suitable to make curtains to block out all of the light?



### Catholic Social Teaching in Year 1 Stewardship Litter picking



### Science in Year 2 Observation and Classification of Seeds





## Year 6 Update

*Last week, the Year 6s were visited by Father Dan and we prepared a few questions about the seven sacraments and his time as a priest to ask him:*

*Q: What is your favourite aspect of being a priest.*

*A: My favourite thing about being a priest is helping adults to become Catholics.*

*Q: What inspired you to become a priest?*

*A: I always liked watching mass and the priest performing this. I wanted to be involved and a part of that.*

*Q: What is your favourite sacrament?*

*A: Reconciliation is probably most powerful for me. You should always feel better after confession. It's like a weight being lifted off your shoulders. Holy orders is a very special one too and I remember the moment I became a priest.*

*Q: What is your favourite pilgrimage you have taken and why?*

*A: Lourdes is a special place. Those that might not get a chance to connect with Mary and God are actually the most important at Lourdes.*

*When Father Dan visited he shared a special prayer with us that we have to write our own prayer for Pope Francis:*

*Dear God,*

*We would like to pray for the Pope,*

*His hope, health and strength,*

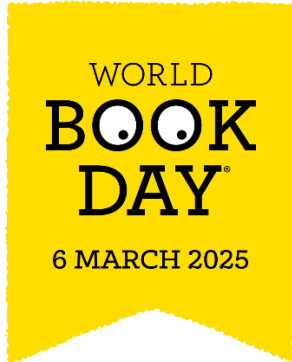
*We also thank you for our health,*

*Thank you for our Pope, our selfless leader.*

*Amen.*



# World Book Day



To celebrate World Book Day the children were invited to dress up as their favourite book character that inspires them or gives them hope. As 'Pilgrims of Hope', each class studied and reflected on a poem and created artwork with a positive message that had a connection to the year group's Catholic Social Teaching value.



## EYFS – I wonder

EYFS read a poem called 'I wonder.' They thought about all the wonderful things in God's world. We thought of ourselves as Wonders. We each shared different things that make us unique and wonderful!



## Year 1 – The Rhythm of Life

Year 1 had a wonderful day for World Book Day. We explored our environment as part of our Stewardship focus and created poems with musical instruments.



## Year 2 – To Make a Garden

Year 2 spent their morning writing poems and creating artwork that linked with the Catholic Social Teaching theme of Participation. They also enjoyed listening to a story read by a parent volunteer.





## Year 3 - How to Fall asleep

Year 3 had a wonderful day. We explored poetry and our theme of peace. It was a great way to improve our literacy



## Year 4 - My Heart Soars

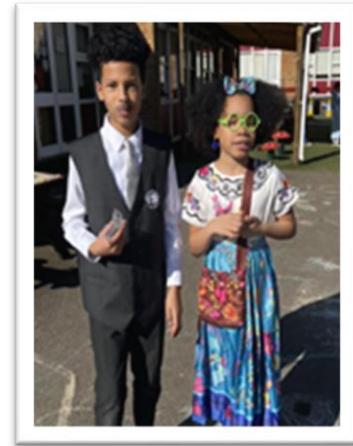
Year 4 made some posters celebrating Hope and Inner peace for World Book Day.

The children painted themselves and thought carefully about how they can do small acts of kindness to help others in and outside of their school community linked to our Catholic Social Teaching principle "The Common Good".



## Year 5 -Unfurling People

For World Book Day, Year 5 studied the poem 'Unfurling People' and thought carefully about the emotions immigrants experience by leaving their beloved homes and families behind. We thought carefully about how we need to show kindness and care and act justly towards others and wrote our own poems reflecting this.



## Year 6 – The Ink Cure

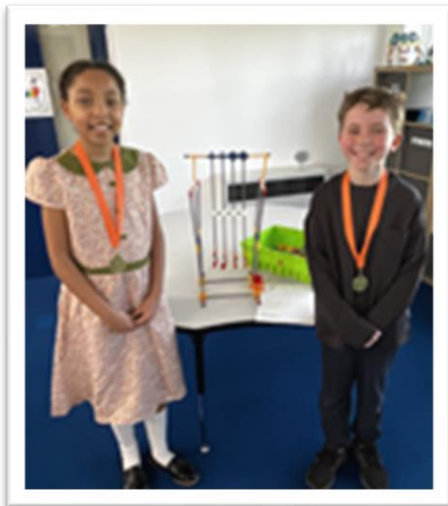
As part of World Book Day, Year 6 analysed a poem called "Instructions to listening to trees". We wrote our own poems inspired by the poem and our own artwork.



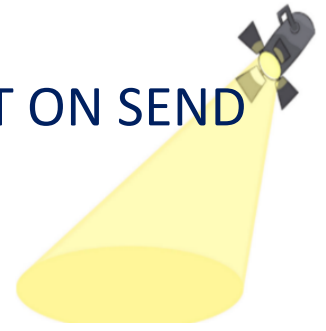
A big thank you to all the parents that were able to come into school and share a 'story of hope' with the children.

## K'NEX CHALLENGE

Yesterday, Year 5 had great fun participating in the 2025 K'NEX challenge as part of their STEM engineer work. They designed and built a new fairground ride - planning, thinking critically and reviewing their models different design features, before presenting it to the class. Year 5 were complimented on their exceptional team working skills and fantastic behaviour!



## SPOTLIGHT ON SEND



### Local Offer Roadshow

A reminder of the Local Offer Roadshow. This event hosts local support groups, education professionals, health teams and social care teams all who are there to share their support and guidance. Your child does not need a diagnosis to attend this event. There are also workshops running throughout the day. You can register your interest for the workshops with the link below. You do not need to book to attend the roadshow.

Tuesday 11 March 2025

9.30am to 12.30pm roadshow for parents and carers of children and young people aged 0 to 25.

1.30pm to 4pm Early Years roadshow for parents and carers of children aged 0 to 5.

Holiday Inn, Waterfront Walk, Festival Leisure Park, Basildon, SS14 3DG

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>

### Parent Support Groups

Please be aware of the parent support groups provided by SNAP at Brentwood Library. This is a fantastic service that is at risk of being discontinued if it is not used. It is a free session designed for parents and carers to access advice and support. Your child does not need a diagnosis for you to access this session.

The next session is on 25<sup>th</sup> March at 11:30-12:30.

# SEND Drop in



Co-hosted with SNAP Charity  
Free and safe space for parent and carers.  
To access advice and support for families of children with SEND.

Free Tea, Coffee and biscuits provided  
Children are welcome to attend, no diagnosis required.

Time  
11:30 -12:30

Upcoming Dates :  
28th January 2025  
25th February 2025  
25th March 2025

Location:  
Brentwood Library  
Brentwood  
CM14 4BP

For further information please call **0300 247 0013**  
Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service

Service commissioned by:



## Free Online Courses

There are a few spaces left on some of the FREE online courses for parents and carers run by ACL. These include: Sibling Rivalry, Sleep For Wellbeing, Managing Big Emotions and Family Wellbeing.

Please visit their website [aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com) or call on 0345 603 7635 for more information.

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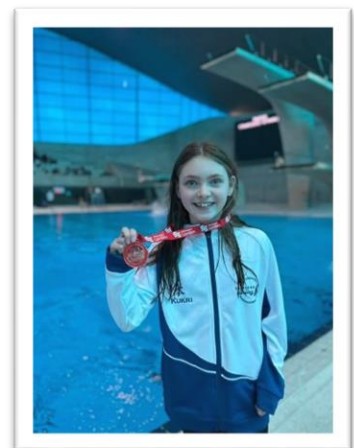
## SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS



Well done to St Peter's netball team! We had a lovely morning at our netball tournament on Tuesday and we came 3rd overall! We are extremely proud of the team for their commitment and passion.

## PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Amelia (Year 6) who recently competed at her first National Diving Qualifier at the London Aquatics centre. She came third in this event and received a Bronze medal. She will now go on to represent the East of England in the National Finals in July. She has only been diving for around 2 years so this is an amazing achievement. Well Done 👍





### School Vacancy

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and motivated Learning Support Assistant to join our team.

This is a permanent Part-Time position

**Please see attached link for full details and application form.**

<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=108865>

Closing date is Midday on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### School Uniform – Summer Dresses

Please note that our uniform supplier – Red Oak Roller have had an early delivery of summer dresses for this year. They are now live on their website in all sizes.

### Healthy Snacks

Please be reminded that snacks brought into school to be eaten during the morning break must be healthy. A healthy snack may consist of a piece/combination of fruit/vegetables, plain popcorn or plain breadsticks and rice cakes. High sugar items such as cereal bars are not to be brought into school to be eaten at break times. Please also refrain from bringing items containing nuts into school.

Please see the separate email regarding our Healthy Snacks and Treat Day requirements.

### Parent Calendar

Parents are reminded to check the Calendar in the Information section on the School Website for upcoming dates and events.

### Polite Reminder

Parents and carers are politely requested to be mindful of parking restrictions and the local residents when dropping off and picking up from school. We appreciate that the areas around the school do get very congested, but the children's safety is our top priority.

## Reminders and Diary Dates

11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Class photos
11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Last Day of Book Fair
13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2B Class Assembly – 9am
14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Life Expo Event – Year 5 & 6
14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Sponsored Bounce – Friends Event
17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Pray as you stay – 8.30am
18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	BSMA Music Festival @ Towngate Theatre – 7pm
20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	1A Class Assembly – 9am

### Parental Consent

If you wish to amend/withdraw parental consent for images and marketing, please complete the Parental Consent Withdrawal form which can be found on the school website under 'Key Information' and 'Data Protection' and return via email to Mrs Foster in the school office.

### St. Peter's Family

We are a school community. Please remember to treat each other with kindness and respect both within the grounds of our school and beyond the school gates.



**PLEASE REGULARLY CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR KEY DATES AND SPECIFIC YEAR GROUP EVENTS**

[www.stpeterscatholicprimaryschool.uk.uk/diary](http://www.stpeterscatholicprimaryschool.uk.uk/diary)

**Don't forget to follow us on X for regular 'tweets' about what's been going on at St. Peter's!**



## Dental Appointments



Please book routine dental check-ups after school or during school holidays to avoid disruption to your child's learning time and the school day.

You may need to book this with the dental surgery some time in advance.

If the appointment relates to a dental concern/emergency, please make us aware.

## WRAPAROUND CARE

St Peter's are excited to announce that The Young Ones Childcare Services who currently have an 'Outstanding' Ofsted rating, will be an on site provider for Wraparound Care between 7.45am- 8.40am and 3.20pm-6pm, term time only, commencing September 2025. This will create an additional 30 places. Further information will follow.

## News from The Most Holy Redeemer



### Parish Parent and Baby Friendship Group:

Our Parish Parent and Baby Friendship Group is now open to welcome families with babies or toddlers up to 2 years old. We meet every Thursday morning in term time from 10am until midday in the Pastoral Centre. Come along for a tea or coffee, a chat, toys and singing for the little ones, and a chance to make new friends.

### Billericay Catholic Pre-School Open Day:



## Open Day

Friday 14th March  
12.30pm - 1.30pm

Prospective parents and carers are warmly invited to come and take a look at our indoor and outdoor learning spaces. Our highly experienced Early Years Practitioners will also be on hand to answer any questions you may have.

Come along and discover why Billericay Catholic Pre-School is the perfect place for your child to begin their Early Years learning journey!



### Find us here:



Canon Roche Centre  
(Behind the Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church)  
Laindon Road  
Billericay  
CM12 9LL

Billericay Catholic Pre-School offers term time provision from 9am-2.45pm Mondays to Thursdays and 9am-12.15pm on Fridays. Fully funded places available for eligible families.

Enquiries: [billericaycatholicpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:billericaycatholicpreschool@gmail.com)

# Attendance

Missed lessons result in missed learning.

## What could that mean?

- Missing an aspect of Phonics
- Missing an introduction to a new class book
- Missing a piece of music that is needed for the next lesson

Whilst illness cannot be avoided, we ask for your continued support in avoiding time off from school.



## CALLING ALL BUDDING BAKERS....



Visit the online safety section on the

**Internet Matters website:**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

which gives advice for parents on talking to their children about online safety and what children are to do if they come across inappropriate content.



## ***TV Appearance***

*Well Done to Mrs Bruno-Hardy who has made it through to the Semi-Finals of Gladiators. She will be appearing again on our screens this Saturday (8<sup>th</sup> March)*

