

St Mary's New Mills Catholic Life and Mission



NEWSLETTER

LENT I 2024

Pentecost Reflection from Dan

Spirit Come Down

Happy Birthday to the Church. I love the celebrations of Pentecost as we hear about the early days of the Church we know and love. This is a chance to think about those early disciples and how they went out and spread the word. They could have just stayed where they were safe with their friends hidden from the Romans but they didn't. The spirit sent out, alone to all the different parts of the world. The spirit gave them all what they needed to achieve their potential and the same spirit does the same for us. Some days it might feel like we are *running on empty* on those days I encourage you to say this very short prayer.

Holy Spirit, make my heart open to the word of God, make my heart open to goodness, make my heart open to the beauty of God every day. Amen

What's In This Terms Issue?

- Mini Vinnies
- The Briars Year 5
- Month of Our Lady
- Adoration with Class 3
- Pentecost Reflection
- Children learning about Islam



Mini Vinnies



Class 3 have continued their excellent year by turning their focus to the local community and those struggling due to the financial crisis and cost of living change. We have continued to focus on the Community pantry but have also considered why it is the right thing to help people. Dan questioned children repeatedly about why we should be helping people and all the Mini Vinnies now know the answer to that question is... **TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS!** They have designed posters to go up around school explaining this. Keep your eyes peeled to see these posters next time you are in school.

Year 5 had an amazing retreat experience at The Briars during this half term. They learnt how to be agents of Love through being part of the *Secret Agent Training Programme*, I am pleased to announce that all the children graduated at the end of the three days. We were blessed to share the experience and make new friends with children from St Annes, Buxton. Here is what the children had to say about the experience:

The stay was excellent. Now my bond with God is sooooo much stronger.
Ava

The food was excellent, everyone agreed. All the activities were really fun and joyful. *Ella*

The food was good, the rooms were nice. The people who ran it were really friendly and kind. The activities were fun. *Bella*

I liked the food and the walk.
Isla

I enjoyed the affirmations session best.
Erin

I enjoyed the small group activities best.
Eva

I enjoyed the disco best.
Evie

I loved the disco and had lots of fun as I had so much sugar.
Juliet

I loved the food
Elizabeth

It was an experience I will never forget!
Ted

It was great fun.
William

I loved it! Thank you helpers and thank you Mrs Chapman and Dan for taking us.
Kian

I loved that we had a room to ourselves and that we had morning prayers every morning. Thank you.
Jacob



"Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may go to heaven." *St Rose of Lima*

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Year 5 Briars Retreat

The Briars



"All I want to know is Christ and the power flowing from His Resurrection!" St. Francis of Assisi



WHOLE SCHOOL CROWNING OF MARY

The rain didn't dampen our spirit's on the 22nd as we all processed down to church to honour and crown Our Lady and present flowers at the foot of the statue of Mary in the St Mary's Grotto. Thank you for all the kind donations of flowers.



YEAR 5 FAITH IN ACTION

Year 5 are continuing to work on their Faith in Action Award. Dan was amazed at how much work the children had been doing since we had last met. The children had set up groups for the children in the younger year groups. They have been incredibly proactive. Well done guys.

"As Lent is the time for greater love listen to Jesus' thirst... 'Repent and believe' " *St Teresa of Calcutta*



YEAR 6 SATS

Congratulations to all the Year 6s on completing their SATs this half term. You have all worked really hard during your time in primary school and the whole community is proud of you all.



LEARNING ABOUT ISLAM

This half term children have been learning about Islam. They have really enjoyed learning all about a different faith and culture and are looking forward to a workshop from the people at Muslim Learning Services in Pentecost 2.

Children have learnt all about the different ways in which Muslims pray and have thought about and created Prayer Mats in Class 1 and 2 leading up to class 4 where they have been learning about and creating models of the 5 Pillars of Islam.



"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." *St Pope John Paul II*



MONTH OF MARY

During the month of May the children have been focusing on Our Lady. The older children have been teaching the younger children how to pray the Rosary as part of our Maisy Milk campaign to support the word of Aid to the Church in Need. We will be continuing to work and support Aid to the Church in Need in the coming weeks, months and years as this is a Pontifical Foundation of the Catholic Church, meaning that it works directly with the Church and the Pope.



A C N



MASS ON THE ASCENSION

All the children attending parish Mass for the Feast of the Ascension. All the children were excellent ambassadors for the school.



"May He make us children of God, He who for our sakes wished to become a Child of man." *St. Augustine Hippo*

