



## The Road to Easter

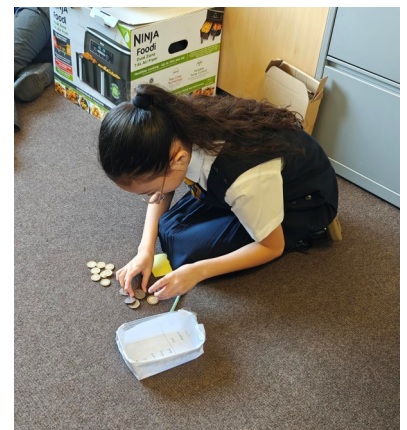
The children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 have all visited St Mary's church this week to experience an interactive Easter story. The Road to Easter exhibition provided the children with the chance to engage with and reflect upon the Easter story and some of the significant events in Jesus' life. They journeyed through 6 reflection stations and listened carefully to the details being shared. They joined in the retelling of stories with actions, wrote prayers and created flowers to add to a new life garden. They had palm branches to wave as they acted out scenes of crowds welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem



This morning, Fr Anthony joined us as the children in Year 3 shared with us the Stations of the cross, a Lenten devotion which helps us to reflect prayerfully on Jesus' final steps on the way to his crucifixion and death. The whole school were reverent as they listened to the readings, looked at images representing each of the 14 stations and then watched the children's re-enactment of Jesus' passion.

## Lent fundraising 2025

Thank you for helping to support your child to engage with our school's Lent fundraising project this year in aid of the Catholic Children's Society. We've been grateful of all the jobs that the children have helped out with in order to earn some pennies, and for the various sacrifices that children have made throughout Lent in order to donate to our chosen charity. The Yr 6 school councillors and RE Ambassadors did an initial count up, in which we had already raised an incredible £491 in just a fortnight. They are looking forward to doing another count up today and we'll then be able to share the final amount raised when we return after Easter.



### Diary Dates

Tue 22nd April PD Day (Children not in school)  
Wed 23rd April Children return to school  
Tue 29th April EYs South Angle Farm trip  
Fri 2nd May Yr3 Roman's Day  
Fri 9th May Annie and Sue OM Health & Wellbeing  
Tue 13th May Yr 1 Banham Zoo trip

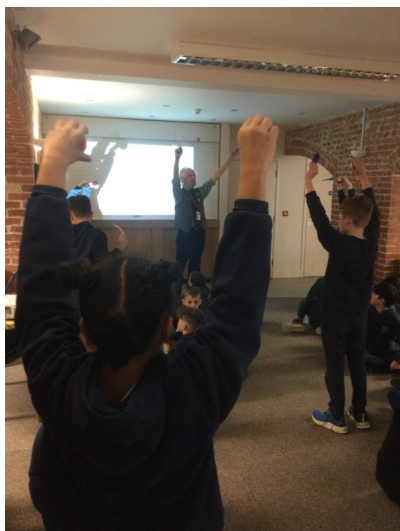


### Yr 5 Science workshop

We have recently had a member of the Science department from St Benedict's lead a workshop for Year 5 about two of the world's most famous scientists - Galileo Galilei and Sir Isaac Newton - to support their learning about gravity, falling objects and motion.

The highlight was when the children launched their own 'rockets' using film canisters and Alka-Seltzer tablets. There were rockets popping and shooting all around the room!

The St Benedict's staff complimented the children's impeccable attentiveness and their probing and insightful questions.



### Summer Uniform

We are hopeful that the sun will continue to stay with us when we return after the Easter break. We would like to take the opportunity to remind you that the children can wear their summer uniform when they return after the Easter break. Details of what the summer uniform consists of are available on the school website in the 'Parent Handbook' tab. If choosing for your child to wear a blue gingham dress we ask that this is an actual dress and not a gingham playsuit. Whilst these are available to purchase, they are not practical when the children need to go to the toilet in school. They can be difficult for the children to try and independently negotiate, especially when in a hurry. Please ensure that the children still have a showerproof coat in school each day as we do live in England, and we can't always rely on the weather!

### Rocksteady gig

Last Thursday we started our morning with the spring term Rocksteady gig. The children who have attended Rocksteady lessons over this past term performed with their fellow band members and the rest of the school enjoyed soaking up the atmosphere and the musician's enthusiastic performances. Many of the children have been performing with their bands over a number of terms and it continues to be great to see their performance skills and confidence grow over the last term. Hearing from Will, our Rocksteady band leader, what the children have been stretched to achieve over the term highlights the progression that he is seeing in their practice sessions. We're already looking ahead to the final gig of the year at the end of the summer term.

Thank you to the huge number of family members who filled every available bit of space in the hall and who enjoyed the performance too.





### OPAL Tidy up Award

Last week our OPAL tidy up award went to Winter in 3P who was identified by staff in the Play team as being particularly cooperative in her efforts when helping to tidy up at the end of lunchtime. The whole of 3P were excited to be awarded with some extra play time this week as a result.



Thank you for your help Winter.



We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Edgar, one of our HLTAs who, inspired by the Year of Jubilee logo, has designed and sewn the beautiful banner seen above for our school. The banner is now hanging in school as we journey our way through the Jubilee Year on our mission to all be Pilgrims of Hope.



skink, a chinchilla, a python, a hissing cockroach and a bearded dragon. After learning some amazing facts such as how high a chinchilla can jump, (up to 1m 80cm) each of the children had a chance to get closer and touch and hold these, whilst asking lots of interesting questions e.g. Why can I not see a snake's ears?

### Animal Encounter experience

Children from Early Years and Key Stage One as well as Kingfishers and Owls classes and Pre school, enjoyed a visit from the 'Animal Experience, Ely.' They were introduced to a variety of different animals including a blue-tongued

