

## Welcome to our Spring 1 Newsletter

We continue to strive to provide our pupils with lots of fun, exciting and memorable opportunities to grow and develop.

Our newsletter this half term gives you a snapshot of what the children have been doing.

Thank you to all those parents who have joined us in school this term for our KS1 Sharing the Word Liturgies and Parents Meetings.

The season of Lent will begin during half term, on Wednesday - when we celebrate Ash Wednesday.

The children will be bringing home a Lenten calendar.

I wish you all a happy and safe Half Term!

*Miss Elliott & SL7*

### Lent

'A time for growth and renewal'





Our Reception children had a 4 week course on balance bike earlier this half term.

They had great fun and learnt new skills.

# NEVER FORGET NEVER AGAIN

Holocaust Memorial Day 27 January



## Prayer for Holocaust Memorial Day 2023

Loving God, you care for each and every human life. All people are cherished as your beloved children, no matter how ordinary or extraordinary their stories are.

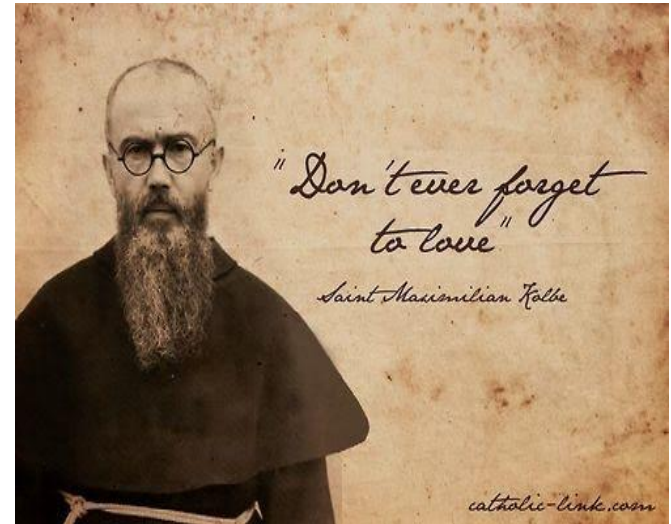
Today we come before you to remember the victims of the Holocaust.

We lament the loss of the six million Jews who were killed in the Holocaust, the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution, and victims of all genocides.

May our minds be clear and attentive to their memory, and our hearts be moved to bear witness to their lives.

Help us all to turn away from hatred and division, and to build a world where genocide is no more.

Strengthen us so that we, in our own ordinary ways, may show extraordinary love in the world today.  
Amen



Loving Jesus, Loving Learning, Loving Life



## Year 4 Trip

Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed their educational visit to Vindolanda and the Roman Army Museum this half term.

They immersed themselves in the life of a Roman soldier and allowed their imaginations to connect with the past.

They saw how artefacts today might have looked to the Romans.

While at the Roman Army Museum, they enjoyed watching a 3D hologram lesson and watched a 2D film of what life was once like at Vindolanda.





Y6 have undertaken a DT unit based on seasonal produce. They have made soup with seasonal vegetables. They have looked at different aspects such as: healthy eating, seasonal produce, the handling of food and designing their own menu based on a healthy eating variety food plate. They children have looked into great detail about what food is seasonal and the benefits of healthy eating.

The soup was delicious!







This half term, Year 4 have been taking part in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) project.  
The theme was Recycling and Sustainability.

We began by learning about how long it takes for items to decompose.  
We then recycled paper, using old worksheets and flipcharts.  
Next, we looked at the processes used by recycling centres to sort waste ready to be recycled.  
We found out about the density of objects and other properties, such as magnetism.

We then designed and made our own machines to sort products for recycling.  
We really enjoyed this project and learned a lot about thinking scientifically, testing products, and working in teams and as individuals.



## Y2 Art

Our new artist this term was Barbara Hepworth, who is a famous female sculptor.

We introduced abstract art and learnt about some of her famous sculptures.

We drew a realistic picture of a person then drew a picture of an abstract person based on the Family of Man sculptures.

We had a walking art gallery to appraise our sketches.



## Y1 Art

In Art the children have been exploring primary and secondary colours, they had to finger paint and see what new colour could be made.





## PE

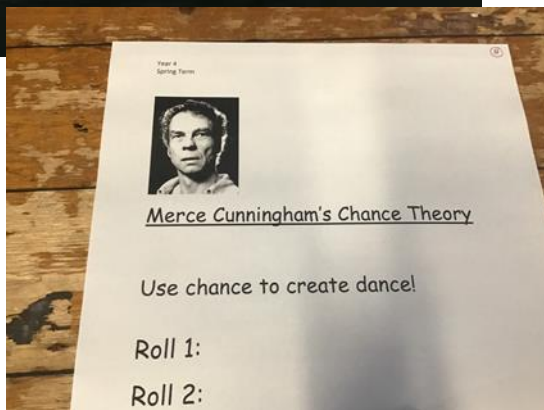
In PE, Y4 have been doing dance with Mrs Sinclair from Sacred Heart High School.

They learned all about the elements of dance and how we can combine them together into a routine.

They learned about a choreographer called Merce Cunningham and his style of dance which is called 'Chance Theory.'

They created a dance by combining the different dance skills with the roll of a die.

They worked in small groups to perform their routines to the rest of the class.







Mrs Foster and Miss Phelan attended some training on 'Play Blocks', to support the children's mathematical thinking.

They enjoyed it so much that they asked Miss Elliott to buy some for our Reception boys and girls.

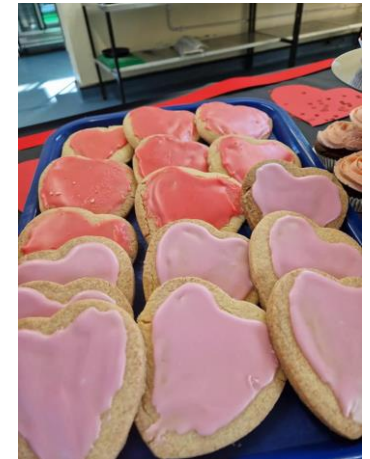
Look at what they have created!







Our fantastic kitchen team put on fantastic and delicious displays for Chinese New Year and St. Valentine's day which both fell during this half term. The children love seeing the themed creations and it makes our lunchtimes even more special!



Chinese New Year and St. Valentines day





## Family Art Club - In Partnership with the BALTIC

Thank you to all of our families who took part in our 'Family Art Club'. We have been working in partnership with Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art and have developed our skills in fabric design, print and block work and textiles, producing some great artwork over 5 weeks.



# BALTIC





# KS1 - Sharing the Word - Liturgies



We were so pleased to be able to welcome families back into school to celebrate the Word of God and take time to reflect and pray on the Gospel teachings. Thank you to all who have been able to join us over the last few weeks, as our Y1 & Y2 classes have welcomed their families to 'Share the Word'. We were all invited to keep our pupils and staff in our prayers and each adult was given a special prayer card to take away.





Y1 had a great day exploring the Discovery Museum. We particularly enjoyed taking part in our 'Toys from the past workshop' where we had great fun exploring old toys.



## Safer Internet Day Tuesday 7th February 2023

The theme for Safer Internet Day 2023 is 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'.



## What If You See Something Upsetting Online?

The most important thing to remember is, if you see something that upsets you, tell an adult you trust right away. It might be a grown-up you live with or a teacher at school.

- They can help you to report the thing you saw.
- They can talk to you help you feel safe.
- They can help to stop those who are hurting other people too.



No one has the right to hurt or upset anyone else, even online!

Our challenge to you:  
Talk about it!

Want to talk about it?

Making space for conversations about life online

## How To Stay Safe

- Try to only use websites you know can be trusted. If you aren't sure, ask an adult!
- Try to use websites that are for children as much as possible.
- Remember, some people might pretend to be children to talk to you. Never give out your name or address! We don't really know who we are talking to when we chat through the Internet.
- Never arrange to meet an online friend. If someone online asks you to meet them, tell an adult you trust right away.

Remember if you aren't sure about anything, always ask a trusted adult.



English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School  
Loving Jesus, Loving Learning, Loving Life

## English Martyrs' Safeguarding Team

Is there something upsetting you?

Come and talk to us

Mr Kennedy  
Deputy Headteacher

Miss Elliott  
Headteacher

Worries in school...

Worries at home...

If you are feeling sad or worried

We are always here to help

Mrs Atkinson  
Family Support Officer

Mrs Kenny  
School Business Manager

Mr Young  
Assistant Headteacher

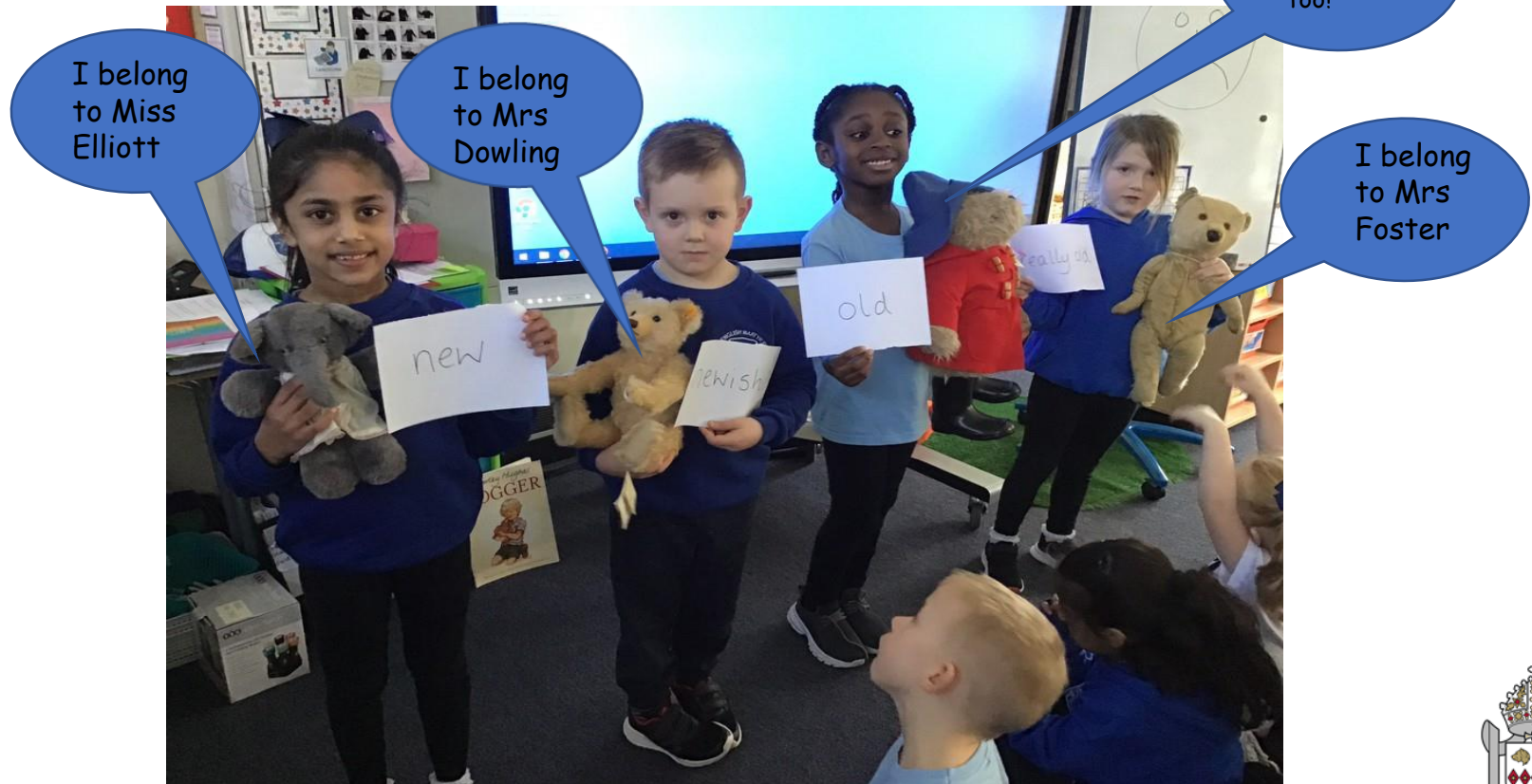
Please come and see our designated staff about any problems you or your child may have, either in school or at home.

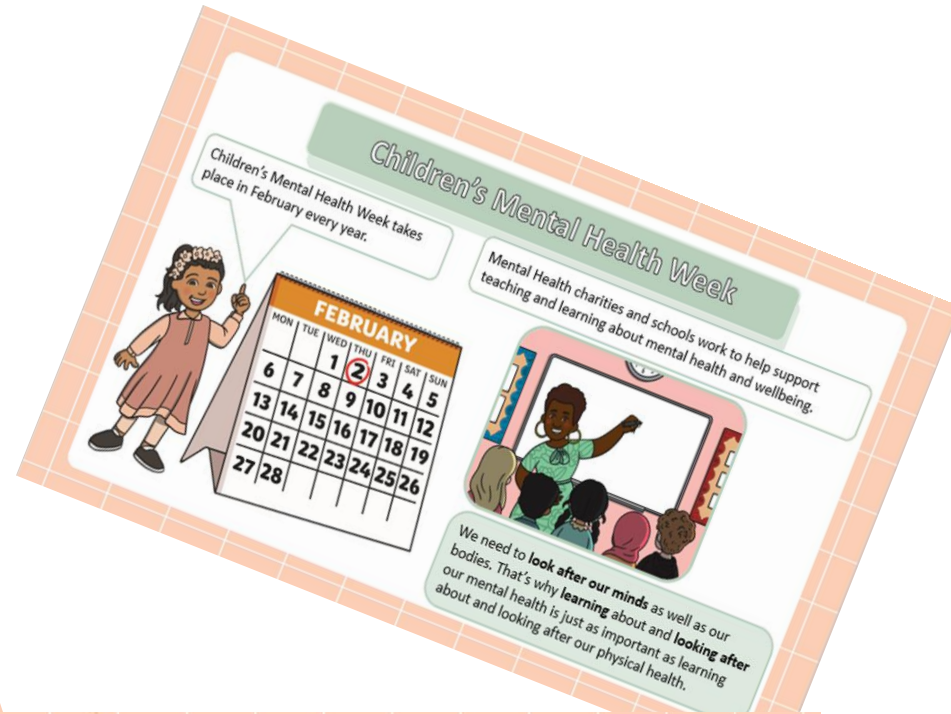


## Y1 History

Some of our staff brought in their toys for Y1 to look at.  
They put them in time order from newest to oldest.

They talked about how old toys might look quite new  
especially if they have been well looked after .

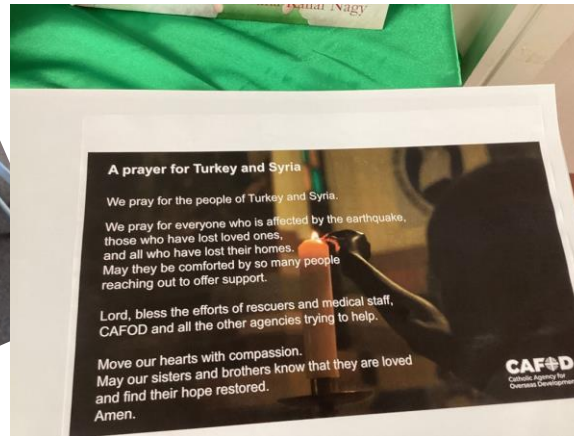






## Creative Prayer





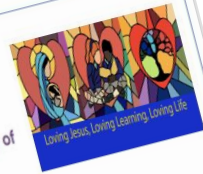
We have been praying for the people in Turkey and Syria.







Wear an item of clothing inside out as a way of making us all stop and think.



## Inside Out Day Children's Mental Health Week 2023

Wear an item of clothing inside out!

Inside Out Day, as part of our Children's Mental Health Week, is an awareness campaign that aims to enable young people to start talking about their mental health.

How someone looks on the outside doesn't necessarily reflect how they are truly feeling on the inside, so it is important to always be kind and think of others.

Turn your clothes inside out to get important conversations started. No one should be embarrassed about how they feel.

Our children wore some or all of their school uniform 'inside out' on Friday 17th February.

We are supporting 'Inside Out Day' as it is a simple and meaningful way to engage pupils in discussions around emotional well-being. This will lead us into discussions about the importance of understanding feelings, not being afraid to show our feelings, that how we look on the outside does not always reflect how we feel on the inside and that it is okay not to feel okay.

The children also took part in a number of activities throughout the day based on 'The 5 ways to well-being'.

It's important that children know that it's OK not to be OK.

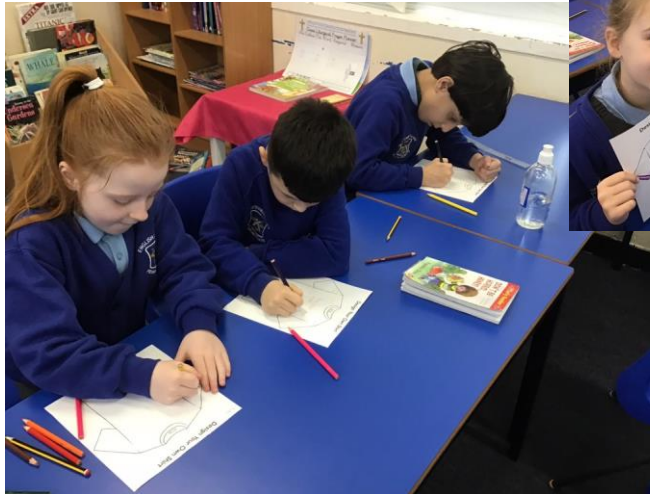
No one is perfect, even though they may look so from the outside.





Y3 Inside Out Day  
We discussed comfortable and uncomfortable feelings and realised that it's ok to be not ok. We talked about what we should do and who we can talk to if we are not feeling ok. We know we are not alone and we can help each other.

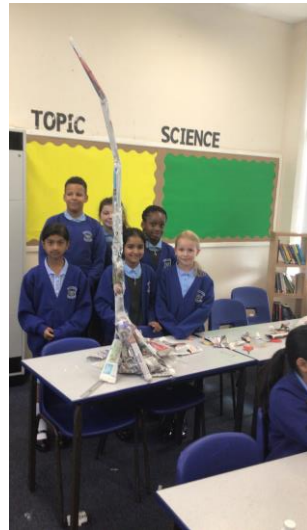
We decorated a T shirt with these important messages.





Mark from CAFOD came into school  
to help our CAFOD club launch our  
Lenten Challenge.  
Watch this space for more  
information!





Year 5 have been exploring and making structures in DT. They worked together as a team to build the tallest most stable structure.







Our prayer leaders have been working hard this term.  
Prayer takes place on a Friday led by our Year 6 children.





## Rocksteady Music

Rocksteady music visited school for an assembly on the 9th February.

The assembly was a fun and informative 40 minutes where our children listened to a number of songs performed on a variety of instruments usually associated with a rock band. (Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Vocals, Drums and Keys)

Our children had great fun singing along and keep in beat by clapping.