

July 2024



English Martyrs'
Catholic Primary School
Loving Jesus, Loving Learning, Loving Life
Part of the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust



Summer Term 3b Newsletter



Message from Miss Elliott

It seems like only yesterday that I was welcoming everyone back for the beginning of our new school year in September.

Such a lot has happened, and we have lots to both celebrate and be thankful for.

Our successful Ofsted visit recognise English Martyrs' as a 'Good' school, where pupils thrive. As always, our pupils have worked hard, had fun and supported each other; living out our Beatitudes to the best of their ability.

Thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support. Your trust, understanding, and collaboration have been so important in our aim to create a positive and nurturing environment for our pupils.

Thank you to our dedicated staff for your hard work, creativity, and care shown to all our pupils. You have gone above and beyond to ensure that our pupils received such memorable learning experiences.

On behalf of the staff and myself – a big thank you for all the kind gifts, card, and well wishes we have received at the end of this term.

We say 'Goodbye and Thank you' to Mrs Stephenson – we wish her well in her new school.

We say 'Hello and Welcome' to Mr Coalter, Mr Smith, Miss Taylor, Miss Angal, Mrs Amaya and Miss Graham; who will join our staff in both the school and the ARP. I'm sure you will make them all feel welcome to our school community.

We look forward with great enthusiasm to the opening of The Oscar Romero Centre (Additional Resource Provision – ARP) in September.

I hope you have enjoyed reading about all the fantastic opportunities and memorable experiences our children have experienced, in all our half termly newsletters this year.

As we enter the well-deserved summer break, I encourage everyone to take time to rest, recharge, and reflect on the achievements and growth we have accomplished together. I wish you all a safe, relaxing, and fun-filled summer, and I look forward to the new school year with optimism and excitement.

Miss Elliott



End of Year Mass

It is always lovely to join together with our parish family to celebrate our End of Year Mass. Our Year 6 children read beautifully and it was joyous to hear our whole school singing with enthusiasm.

Thank you to all those parents and parishioners who attended church for our celebration Mass. We asked for blessings for our Year 6 children as they go forth from English Martyrs' as well as celebrating the outstanding achievements of some of our children this year.



Faith in Action

Our Year 6 children have completed their 'Faith in Action Award'. Over the year they have worked hard improving the prayer room resources for child led prayer on a Friday lunch time, leading 'Celebration of the Word', prayer stations, supporting children with praying the rosary and many more activities. They were awarded their pins during their leavers mass in church. A fantastic effort Y6. Thank you for leaving a great legacy gift to make a difference in our school.



'Go Green for CAFOD'

Miss Elliott and some of our lovely children planted flowers and created a school flower display. They all did a lovely job, making our school beautiful, colourful and welcoming for all. Together we can shine a light on some of the causes of the climate emergency while doing our bit to guard God's creation and protect our common home.



Stay and Pray

We were delighted to welcome all of our families who have joined us for our very successful stay and pray this term. We have loved celebrating the word with you all as well as members of our Parish.



Leavers Mass at St Mary's Cathedral

Year 6 joined all of the other Catholic primary schools in a prayerful celebration of the word at the Cathedral as they prepare to all go on to new schools and make new friends. Well-done to the two children who read beautifully during the mass. It was a joyous occasion.



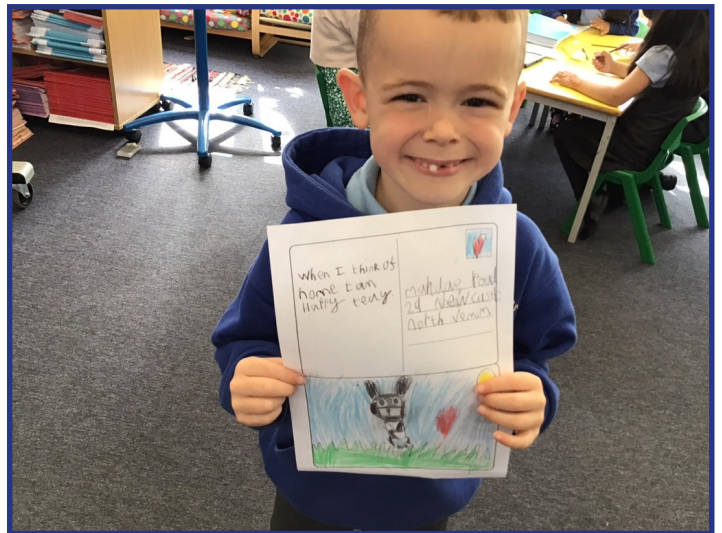
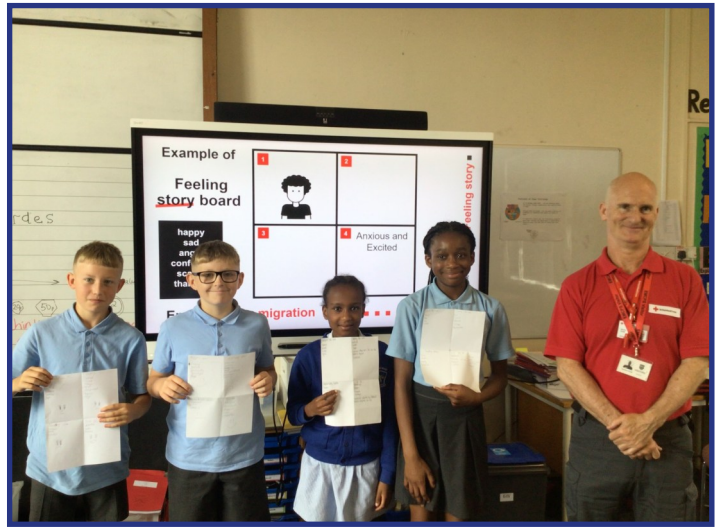
YMT Primary Festival

Year 6 had a fantastic visit to YMT on Monday 1st of July. The children had the opportunity to meet lots of other year 6 children who are all excited about their transition to secondary school. They sang some fantastic songs and thought about how God is always with us in our journey onwards.



World Refugee Day

On Thursday 20th June we celebrated World Refugee Day in school. This year the theme was 'Home'. All classes joined an online 'Big Assembly' to learn all about what life is like for people who need to seek sanctuary. This linked in with our work this year towards becoming a School of Sanctuary. All classes made a postcard to show what 'Home' means to us. We also read some stories that link with the theme of seeking refuge somewhere unknown.



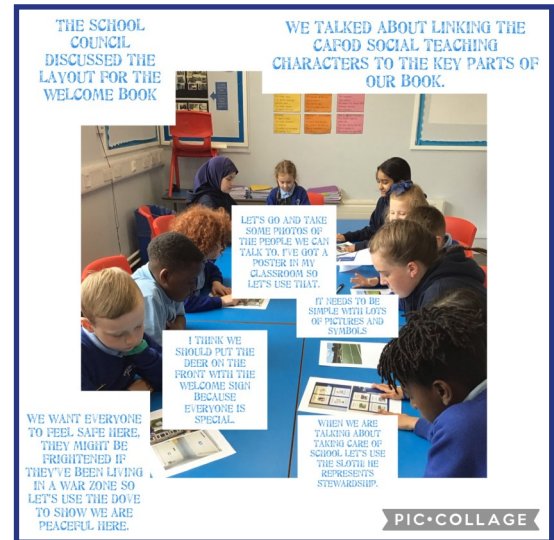
Outstanding Achievement

Congratulations to all of our Outstanding Achievement winners this year. The staff are all very proud of your fantastic achievements!



School Council

Recently, the school council have worked together to put together a welcome booklet for anyone new to our school. They also held lots of active discussions during Refugee Week. Cafod Brochures have been designed to aspire and guide the children to live out their faith in our school and this is underpinned by the RE curriculum.



We awarded Zarnab and Amina certificates to celebrate all the hard work they have done as part of the school council, and to Ava for being head of the school council. We wish them luck as they leave year 6 and hope they will always do their best to be a voice for those in need.



Year 6 Leavers Celebration

'We are all able to lead a life of significance'

Our school focus this year is that we are all significant and all have a role to play in our school community. This has been inspired by the words of Fr. Dermott Donnelly to, 'Aspire to reach high and achieve your best' as they leave primary school and prepare for their new adventures in secondary school. Well-done to all of the Year 6 children who have been fantastic role models this year in all aspects of school life. We hope they continue to lead a life of significance and enjoy the adventures in the next part of their journey.



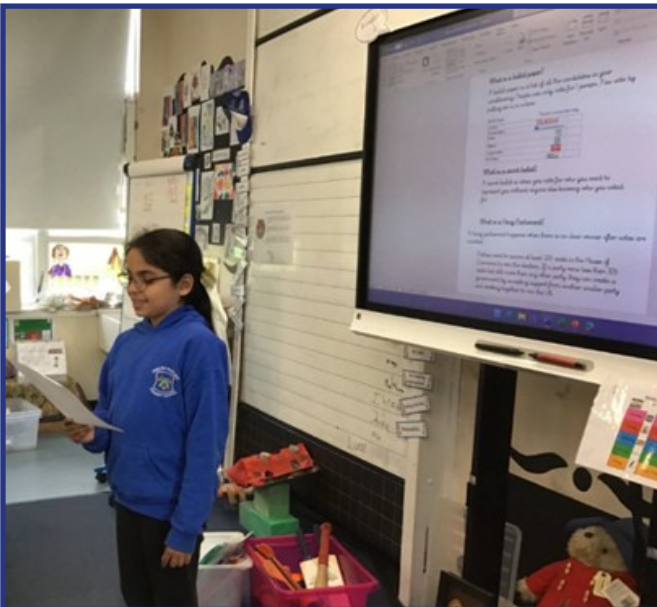
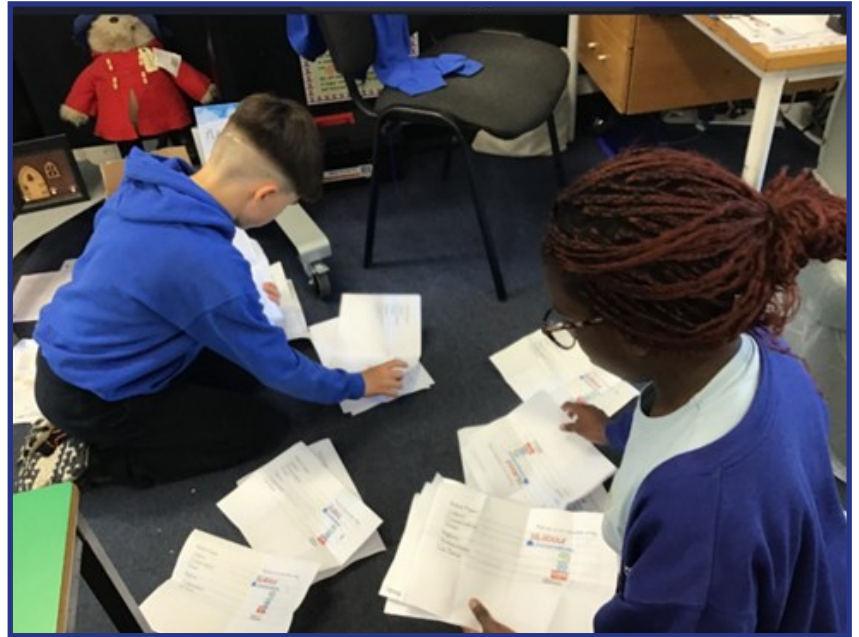
D-Day Remembrance


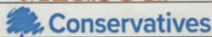




The children in school remembered and commemorated the 80th anniversary of D-Day. They thought about the sacrifices made by the many soldiers so we could have freedom. We created our own version of the artwork 'Standing with Giants' in what was a very moving day.



General Election

The children in school held their own General Election. It was a secret ballot. The votes were counted and announced by the Returning Officer.



Ballot Paper		Put an x in one box only	
Labour			11
Conservative			3
Green			9
Reform			2
Independent			2
Lib Dems			1

Their predictions turned out to be very accurate!

Sports Day

The children and parents both enjoyed our sports day this year, with events such as hurdles, bean bag balancing, egg and spoon races and sprinting. We also managed to have a few parent egg and spoon races which were competitive but very friendly.



Reception - Hall Hill Farm

Reception all enjoyed a fabulous trip to Hall Hill Farm. They loved learning about different farm animals and even got to feed some of them!



Year 1 - Alnwick Gardens



Year 1 had a fabulous day in the sunshine at Alnwick Gardens and Lilidorei. We enjoyed looking at lots of different plants and flowers in the gardens and trying not to get wet in the water features. We then had a story time session in Lilidorei before exploring the worlds largest play structure.



Year 3 - Great North Museum

Year 3 enjoyed their trip to the Great North Museum where they met Bakt-en-hor and Irtyru, the Ancient mummies who live in Newcastle. During the trip, the children followed Anubis (the god of funerary rights) on a trip to the Egyptian underworld as well as visiting other parts of the museum including the ancient Greeks, Roman Britain and the dinosaurs.



Year 4 - Vindolanda Visit

Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the Roman fort of Vindolanda. They explored the ruins of the settlement and were even able to speak to and observe archaeologist's and volunteers at work digging on the site. They visited the museums and took part in a virtual lesson with a Roman soldier.



Wormery

As part a topic on mini beasts some of the children have created their own wormery. They sequenced the steps, assembled the wormery and have been looking after their worms.



Hoodwinked

Year 6 gave a spectacular performance of their acting, singing and dancing skills in the Robin Hood adaptation - Hoodwinked. Children and parents were amazed by their talents!



Year 2 Parent Lunch

It was lovely to welcome so many parents in to school from Year 2 to enjoy a healthy school meal cooked by Carole our fantastic chef!



Reception Graduation

Reception have officially graduated Early Years. We have worked hard throughout the year, making friends and learning lots of new skills. Our teachers are very proud!



Beach Themed Lunch

We were so lucky that the weather was kind to us so that we could all enjoy our beach day fun—as ever Carole served up a fantastic lunch which was thoroughly enjoyed by both the children and staff!



Football

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 football team who were crowned champions of the U11 Catholic Schools Cup 2024. They lifted the cup after a 4-1 win against St Theresa's. This came after their recent win in the Sir Bobby Robson Great North Children's Hospital Tournament . A fantastic achievement!

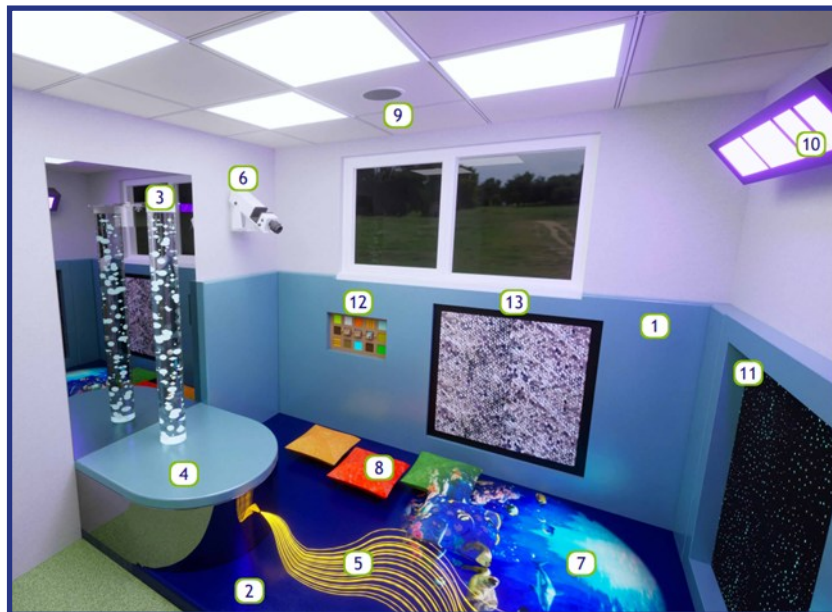


Champions!



Additional Resourced Provision

We are delighted to confirm that the additional resourced provision for communication and interaction pupils will open in September. The provision will support up to twelve children and be based within The Oscar Romero Centre. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our new children and their families to English Martyrs'!



Family Breakfast

Thank you all those families who joined us for our second Family Breakfast. A huge thank you to the staff for all of their hard work to ensure there was plenty of delicious food available!



Attendance

Congratulations to the children in Year 6W who achieved the highest attendance over the course of this year.

Well done to all those children whose attendance fell within our 'Green Zone' (95% and above). Those children were entered into a prize draw to win a voucher and the lucky winners are below:



We hope you enjoy spending your vouchers!!

School Performance

	Percentage of Children Achieving the Expected Standard		Percentage of Children Achieving Greater Depth Standard	
	School	National Average	School	National Average
Reception - Good Level of Development	63.3%	67.7%	N/A	N/A
Year 1 Phonics	90.0%	80.3%	N/A	N/A
Year 6 Reading	75.4%	74.2%	26.2%	28.4%
Year 6 Writing	78.7%	71.7%	16.4%	12.8%
Year 6 Mathematics	78.7%	73.0%	26.2%	23.7%
Year 6 Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	80.3%	72.1%	41.0%	31.8%
Year 6 Reading, Writing and Maths Combined	67.2%	60.5%	9.8%	7.6%

House Points

Congratulations to the children in St Hilda who won our House Point competition this year!



Total Points - 6476

Date for your diary...

Reminder...

Pupils return - Tuesday 3rd September 2024

HAPPY
SUMMER
HOLIDAYS