



# St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery Weekly Newsletter



Friday 24th June 2022

## Gospel Assembly

In our assembly this week, we learnt that Jesus himself was once a refugee, when his family had to flee to Egypt to escape from King Herod. We thought about Jesus' words in the Bible:

'Then the people asked the king, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you food? When did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you with no place to stay and welcome you into our home? When did we see you without clothes and give you something to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and care for you?'

Then the king will answer, 'The truth is, anything you did for any of my people here, you also did for me.'



### Go Forth:

Our St Alban and St Stephen Catholic Primary values are  
**friendship, faith, respect, determination and unity.**

How would Jesus want you to show **friendship** towards others who are new to our school, city or country?

How can you try and show **unity** with all those who are in need this week?

## SSAS Refugee Week

This week is Refugee Week. The children have been taking part in a variety of different activities including assemblies and workshops led by the Catholic charity, CAFOD. Our aim was to understand what a refugee is and why people are forced to become refugees. We then thought about ways that we can welcome refugees to our country, city and school.

I learnt all about refugees and that they are people like us who have had to flee from their homes because something bad has happened to them. It made me feel sad for them. My class made posters to welcome them. *Nathan, Year 4*



Mrs Keaty, our School Librarian, has found many lovely books to help us to understand more about the refugee crisis. You can borrow all of these books from our School Library.

## SSAS Refugee Week

On Monday 20th June, volunteers from the Catholic charity CAFOD came into our school and ran a workshop with Year 6 children about refugees and their journeys to safety.

We were put into groups of 5-6 people and first had to choose a role as part of a family, for example a mother, child, grandparent. I was a dad!

Afterwards, we had a short amount of time to write a list of only 6 items each family member could take with them on their journey. We had to choose carefully as some items, like a mountain bike, were heavy, whilst others, such as iPads might not have been too practical. It was quite difficult to choose as we had to choose items to help our survival, even though we were used to having luxury items such as sofas and televisions.

Then, we started a 'journey' as if we were a refugee. Along the way, we ended up trading and losing some items, being separated from some of our family members (and making the difficult decision of how to separate our family) and having a family member get hurt.

Afterwards, we had a discussion about how we felt, and how this journey was based on a real family who fled from Syria. It was very poignant to think that real people had to endure such hardships.

Thank you so much for the experience, CAFOD!

*Reported by Daisy, 6N*





Please share the CAFOD prayer and video as a family and ask your children what they have learnt.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Children-s-prayers/Refugees-children-s-prayer>

## Year 2 get Creative with Clay

Year 2 have been very creative this week. We have been using different media to create fish based on our whole school book “The Secret of Black Rock”. This week we made decorative fish plaques using clay. First we looked at pictures from the book and pictures of real fish. Then we designed our plaque on paper. We then transferred this on to a piece of clay. We remembered skills we had used before such as rolling and moulding. This week we learnt a new techniques called “score and slip” to add detail and join the clay together. Our finished clay fish look wonderful!



## Sports Day 2022

We were so thrilled to be able to invite families into school this week for our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Sports Day events. The weather was kind to us and we enjoyed two wonderful mornings of competitive races, team-games and a range of other sporting activities such as dancing and speed-stacking. We were very proud of the way all of the children participated, showing excellent team spirit and a sense of fair play. The mornings ended with a family picnic. Congratulations to all of the winners and to the winning house in Key Stage 2, St Peter's! Many thanks are due to Mrs Bowen, our Sports Coach, Mr Hegarty, the Year 6 Sports Ambassadors and House Captains and all of the staff who helped to set up, run and clear away events afterwards. We are now looking forward to our Nursery Sports Day next month!

Sports Day is one of the most fun days of the year because we can do many exciting sports activities. I really liked the sprint races and the dodgeball. The picnic was great too as we ate our lunch outside with friends and family. It was fun to celebrate Sports Day as a school again after so much time in lockdown. When I heard that my house, St Peter's, had won, I was ecstatic! *Ernest, Year 6*



I like Sports Day because we get out of the classroom and have lots of exercise. It was great to see all the parents joining in, especially when they lost miserably in the Dance-Off against the children! The teachers' race was the highlight of the day and Mr Taylor showed supersonic speed- he was faster than Usain Bolt...probably!

## Dates for your Diary

01.07.22 at 9.15 (Lower Hall) Year 1 family curriculum assembly. *Year 1 parents and carers are welcome to attend.*

04.07.22 (Lower Site) Nursery Sports Day

11.07.22 at 6pm (Upper Site) Peter Pan Performance for Year 6 parents

13.07.22 at 6pm (Upper Site) Peter Pan Performance for Year 6 parents

14.07.22 at 1.45 pm (Ss Alban & Stephen Church) Year 3 First Holy Communion Celebration Mass *All parents and carers are welcome to attend.*

15.07.22 at 9.15 (Lower Site Hall) Year 2 Graduation Ceremony and Prayer Service *Year 2 parents and carers are welcome to attend.*

20.07.22 at 1.45pm (Ss Alban & Stephen Church) Year 6 Leavers' Mass *All parents and carers are welcome to attend.*

22.07.22 at 9.15 (Upper Site Hall) Year 6 Leavers' Graduation Ceremony *Year 6 parents and carers are welcome to attend.*

### Upcoming local literary events.

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Children's Book Festival - St Albans High School for Girls

<https://www.stahs.org.uk/about-stahs/festivals-events/bookfest/>

First 2 weeks of July - Festival of Culture at Books on the Hill, St Albans

<https://www.books-on-the-hill.co.uk/festival-1>

## Play Equipment Outside School Hours

A gentle reminder that the school equipment is to be used solely by pupils within school hours and only when supervised by a member of staff. To ensure that all children stay safe, please ensure that they do not play on any of the gym, climbing play equipment either before or after drop-off.