



Good Shepherd Newsletter

Friday 24th February 2023

Lent

We started Lent on Wednesday with a lovely Ash Wednesday Mass in school. The children participated in the mass responses well and sang a selection of gentle hymns. A wonderfully large number of parents, carers and parishioners joined us—sorry I didn't set up enough chairs!



Ash Wednesday

Wednesday was also our Lenten Day of Reflection where children wrote their Lenten Promises and discussed different aspects of Lent. Year 1 made some pretzels—see the attachment to see how this links to Lent!

Cafod collecting boxes were given to each class to start their collection for the Cafod World Gifts. Please try to send your child in with some money for this worthwhile charity.

[Find your gift – CAFOD World Gifts](#)

The 'Travelling Stations of the Cross' started to go home this week too. Each class has a special bag with Stations of the Cross pictures, a cross and a prayer book so each child can write a prayer. This bag goes home with a different child every day so that families can pray together.



Book Day at Good Shepherd

We saw a fantastic selection of outfits for book day on Tuesday, ranging from the Lost Sheep in the Bible to Little Red Riding Hood.



These are just a few of the wonderful costumes.

Respect

Responsibility

Determination

Positivity

Teamwork

Headteacher and Kindness Awards

Well done to the following children who have worked hard, had great behaviour or have shown great kindness and thoughtfulness to others:

Headteacher Award: Kindness Award:

R: Isabel, Petra	Paul
Y1: Anaiah-Jay, Vanessa,	Marcan
Y2: Jeremy, Keziah-Rose	Leylah
Y3: Makamona, Oscar,	Sefaah
Y4: Erin, Funmi, Leonie,	Daniel
Y5: Allan, Ezra,	Kingsley
Y6: David, Zac,	Daniel



Poetry Performance

On Thursday at 9:05am, the Year 3 & Year 5 children will be performing poems to the school. Parents are very welcome to come and watch.

Term Dates 2023-2024

Thank you for your feedback from the recent survey about introducing a two-week half term. 93% of parents were in favour of a two-week break or didn't mind either way.

The autumn term sees a lot of illness and so having a two week half term would allow children and staff more of an opportunity to recharge their bodies better and hopefully reduce absence levels.

I have attached the term dates for next year reflecting this change.



Y6 Assembly

The Year 6 children led the school in an assembly yesterday on mental health and the importance of looking after both our physical health and our mental health—well done for your assembly on this very important topic.

Fr Con's Reflection

Wednesday of this week (22nd February) was the opening day of the Holy Season of Lent.



That date is also the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, but that Feast could not be celebrated this year.

Lent (40 days in length) is not just a season for giving up one or more things. It is a graced time for reading the Bible more and for praying more.

Peter can help us in this respect. He was always the first to speak, and often without fully thinking beforehand. He denied Jesus 3 times when he was cornered on the eve of Jesus' death.

Yet Jesus had made him the Rock (=Peter's name's meaning), on which He would build his church.

Peter loved Jesus and Jesus loved Peter, despite all his shortcomings.

Perhaps, this Lent we can get to know Peter better by prayerfully reading his 2 letters in the New Testament.

If you need to contact the office, please email or telephone **01689 841 771**
office@goodshepherd.croydon.sch.uk

*Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Day*

Learning together as part of God's family