

19<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### Ascension



This week the Church celebrates the Ascension of Jesus to Heaven. The message that we have shared with the children is the one that Jesus shared with his friends.

Although he had left them physically he is always with them and us in spirit. Jesus shared that he would send power from above. We celebrate this power, the Holy Spirit, coming at Pentecost next Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> May.

### Statement to Live By

Next week's statement is **I try to accept forgiveness from others**. During Liturgical Prayer this morning we shared thoughts on how it is tricky sometimes to say sorry and also to accept forgiveness. The children were very knowledgeable about how important it is to ensure that forgiveness is sought and accepted. They knew that it helped all people involved.

You may have noticed our new reflection garden by the gates to the big yard. Mini Vinnies met this week to decide how to use the area.

The reflection garden has been developed so that children and adults can spend some time in there and just be. The area was developed in the Easter holidays 2023 after some time planning and considering what its purpose would be. Ideas came from a mixture of reasons.

The children wished for the area to be a place where children and adults could reflect upon the past, present and the future. It can be a prayer space for children and it can also be a place of growth.

In order that the physical growth can continue, each class will be allocated a flower bed which they are responsible for. We would love the children to work with their grown-ups from home to maintain what is there and plant new flowers and shrubs. Each class will have the bed year after year with the Year 6 children passing to the new reception each September.

Please get in touch with your child's class teacher if you feel you can help in any way, gardening, donations of flowers or simply advice. Gardening can be done at the beginning or end of the school day. If anyone has spare time during the day they are also very welcome to come and help. Please contact the school office.

As the warmer days are coming staff have asked to send a reminder about sunscreen. Please ensure that your children have had an application of cream in the morning before coming to school. This is especially important for the younger children. It would be advantageous for the children in Nursery and Reception to bring a small bottle of sunscreen into school. If this could have your child's name on it that would be wonderful. Thank you.

### **SEND information**

Mrs McCarron our Special Education Needs Coordinator and Deputy Headteacher is absent from work at the moment. Should you need to speak about any SEND issues please contact the school office and they will direct the query to the relevant person during Mrs McCarron's absence. Thank you for your understanding.

### **Water Bottles**

We have noticed that there has been a steady incline in the use of expensive water bottles in school. Please ensure that your child keeps their expensive things at home. For school all the children need is a simple bottle that can be filled when the need a drink. In particular I ask that Air-Up bottles are left at home.



Our **Outdoor Adventure Days** when the children have been to Plessey Woods and Gallagher Park are coming to an end, we are looking for some feedback from you. We are beginning to make plans for next year and would like to know whether to repeat these activity days.

When you get a moment please complete this survey

<https://forms.gle/2qP8NkGNXuoKHEnd8>

### **The Big Lent Walk**

We are so proud of all of the children in school for the effort with the Big Lent Walk for Cafod. The children were able to raise £555 that will be used overseas to support those who need additional help. Thank you to Mini Vinnies for organise this charity campaign and the counting the money earlier this week.



### **Jubilee Games – West Bedlington Council**

Unfortunately, there was not enough interest in each year group to create a team for the Jubilee Games taking place tomorrow via West Bedlington Council. Therefore, St Bede's will not be participating. Apologies for any inconvenience this has caused.



This week the children have finalised the art project that will be showcased at The Discovery Museum in June in Newcastle as part of Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust art exhibition – Stronger Together.

All of the children in school had the chance to create a knot using a coloured piece of paracord – this symbolises connectivity and staying together – all the small parts linked up

Mini Vinnies then created silhouettes of their hands to symbolise that open hands can mean an offering of help but also a request for the help

The colourful knots then covered the hands, each hand different and each knot different – just like all of us

Then as a collective the hands were grouped in such a way to create a heart, showing love for everyone that can be strengthen when knotted together

