

## St Mary's RC Primary School, Sabden

Just like our sister schools we welcomed new children into our family—Alycia and Reece are busy making new friends and already working really hard.

All the children and staff have hopes and dreams for the year ahead and are being pro-active and determined to make those dreams become a reality.

The Pupil Chaplains are looking at more ways to worship and will soon be setting up some Prayer Intention Days for the whole school family to share. The School Council continue to develop ideas to support others and to enhance pupil life around school and in our community.

Our choir is busy rehearsing ready for the Sing Together Concert in March and all our after school and lunchtime clubs are very well attended.

In March all of the junior children will be attending a fun filled day at Outdoor Elements where they will learn lots of new skills. They will take part in challenges such as climbing, crate stack, Jacob's ladder pushing themselves to the limit physically and mentally.

As we move through Lent we will be sending home prayer bags. Our church Knit, Stitch and Natter group have kindly made us some super bags that can be sent home to each household for one night during Lent. In the bags will be items picked by the children that will help each family to prepare their hearts for Jesus as we travel towards Easter.

## Thorneyholme RC Primary School, Dunsop Bridge

There's a sense of determination and excitement in school, as children have reflected on all they have achieved in the previous year and set new and exciting goals for this coming year.

At the start of this term we welcome two new children, James and Andrew, to school. We also welcome Mrs Kay King to our teaching staff.

During the first week back after the Christmas holidays, a Viking came to school for the day! With swords and shields in hand, and dressed in Viking costumes, the children enjoyed re-enacting a Viking battle! During January, our children are participating in the RSPB Birdwatch count. We have many bird feeders within the school grounds and even a camera bird box. We will be watching live video streaming from the RSPB website. Harry Potter Book Night is being celebrated in school on Thursday 1st February 2018. Events will include fantastic beast face painting, crafts related to dangerous beasts, Harry Potter wand, a Basilisk on the loose game and much more. Thorneyholme will be joining thousands of schools across the country in a mega maths fundraising day in aid of the NSPCC. Parents will be invited to join the children in a Snakes & Ladders Mega Game Event and there will be fun forest activities related to mathematics.

We are continuing to work towards Unicef's Rights Respecting School Silver Award. Money was raised for our local charity Nightsafe during Advent, in support of Article 27 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child – all children have the right to a safe place to live and to have basic needs met. The school choir are busy rehearsing for this year's Sing Together Concert at Blackburn King George's Hall in March. In addition, we will be celebrating Internet Safety Day and The International Day of Forests. What a busy and exciting term in store!

Please contact us or look on our school websites should you have any comments or questions.

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[www.thorneyholme.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.thorneyholme.lancs.sch.uk) 01200 448276

# Parish of Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Primary Schools Newsletter Spring 2018



## Welcome

Happy New Year.

As we look forward to all that 2018 has to offer our school and communities, it is also the perfect time to reflect upon what we might do for others, particularly as we approach Lent.

We all belong to a few different families for example our family at home, at school, in our parish and our world family and these families are made up of the people who love and care for us. Although families may not be perfect we are called to live in love and to grow in love with one another.

In Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) Pope Francis says that 'each of us, by our love and care, leaves a mark on the lives of others.'

During Lent 2018, as we engage in prayer, fasting and almsgiving, through whatever we decide to do or to 'give up', let us all try to make a mark of love on the lives of others. One way to start would be through Cafod's Family Fast Day on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Stay with us Lord on our journey

Mrs Zoe Mabbott

Headteacher, St Michael & St John' RC Primary School.

## Religious Education Autumn Overview



### St Mary's RC Primary School

Class 1 and Class 3 are both studying the Bible and what makes it such an important book for us all. They will look at how it is made up and study who wrote it and the special messages it holds for us.

Class 2 are looking at the followers of Jesus, particularly the Disciples and thinking about how they can follow Jesus themselves. This will then link to them thinking about their place in the community and all the talents they have to offer.

As a whole school we will also turn our attention to Lent and placing Christ forefront in our minds as we remember the sacrifice he made for us all.

### St Michael & St John's RC Primary School

This Term, EYFS are getting to know Jesus through some of His miracles and finding out how they can help other people. In the second half of this term, they will be finding out about the sorrow and the joy of Lent and Holy Week. Year One are learning about Families and Celebrations. They will learn about the Presentation of Jesus at the temple and their own Baptism. Year 2 are learning about The Good News and some of Jesus's miracles— Jesus cures the Ten Lepers and the Feeding of the 5000. Year 3 will be learning about the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Celebrating the Mass. Year 4 will be learning about Jesus the Teacher which includes The Beatitudes and the call of the first disciples. They will also be learning about Jesus the Saviour and the events of Holy Week. Year Five are learning about Inspirational People such as St Paul and St Bakhita. They will then be looking at Reconciliation and God's unconditional love and forgiveness. Year 6 will be studying Jesus the Bread of Life and the work of the Apostles.

### Thorneyholme RC Primary School

This term we will be studying the three themes of Local Church (Community), Eucharist (Relating) and Lent/Easter (Giving) whilst continuing to study various aspects of Islam.

The infant children will begin this term by learning about the Bible, the four Gospels and the books we use during mass. Following this the children will learn how to thank God during Mass, the meaning of the Eucharist and how the Parish family can spread the message of thanksgiving and peace. As Easter approaches, they will go on to explore the opportunities Lent offers to start anew. In the juniors, children will learn all about the mission of inspirational leaders and how we within the Diocese continue the work and mission of Jesus including ecumenism. The next focus during this term will be memories: how we keep them alive and how the Eucharist keeps the memory of Jesus' sacrifice alive and present in a special way. During Lent, the juniors will explore sacrifice and how Lent is a time of aligning with the sacrifice made by Jesus.

### Suggested Fun Family Activity from Thorneyholme: A bag full of charity in 40 days

This year Lent begins on 14th February. Instead of, or in addition to, giving up something for Lent, try collecting a bag's worth of items for charity: simply add one item for the food bank or one item to donate to a charity shop etc. to the bag every day during Lent. You choose the size of the bag, and make it a family affair. Any items collected can then be donated at the end of Lent. Just think how much good you will be doing for others when Easter come round!

### Sharing Our Learning from St Mary's

Lent is the period of nearly five weeks before Easter. Lent is a time in which Christians often take time to be quiet and thoughtful, preparing themselves for Easter. They should pray a lot, give money or time to charities and give up some of the things they might otherwise do for pleasure.

### A Family Prayer from St Michael & St John's

Dear Lord,

Thank you for family and all those who support us. Thank you for all those people who are proud of us. For the love that we share as a family. Thank you for our parish, Our Lady of the Valley which is a big family there to support and be proud of each other.

Amen

By Abigail Year 6

### Other News from our Schools

#### St Michael & St John's RC Primary School, Clitheroe

We started our new term with Crazy Hair day to raise money for items to go in the outside classroom. This was organised by the School Council. There were some amazing hair creations.

In the second week we celebrated Faith Week during which the whole school found out about other world religions; Islam, Hinduism, Judaism and

Buddhism. Year Three visited The Hindu Mandir in Preston and one of our school volunteers talked to the children about Islam.

After half term we will be starting our Lenten Collection for St Joseph's Penny. This is organised and led by our Caritas Ambassadors and our Chaplaincy team will lead the Stations of the Cross.

Later on in the term, EYFS make Get Well cards as part of their RE topic and take them to Clitheroe Hospital. We also have numerous sporting events and competitions to look forward to.

We welcomed four new children to our SSMJ family—Rhys, Cameron, Triston and Ashton-Stephen and our Year 5 children will be taking on the challenge to help to save God's wonderful world and also some money for our school as they become Energy Heroes.