

# DBE Schools Bulletin: School News Edition

June 21

Being deeply Christian and for the common good,  
our schools will be communities which are:

**LOVING**  
in relationships

**AMBITIOUS**  
in aspirations

**BOLD**  
in actions

## This is a special School News Issue:



**News from Schools** Page 2

**Church & School Partnership  
Award – All Saints C of E Primary  
School & All Saints' Church,  
Marple** Page 12

We always look forward to receiving news and stories from our schools and are pleased to be able to share what pupils have been learning about and projects they are involved with across our Family of Schools.

This month, we have created a separate edition just for school news, as there is so much to share and celebrate. It includes a special article from All Saints C of E Primary School in Marple, who are the first school in the Diocese to have been awarded the Church & School Partnership Award. This is a new award that was created through Liverpool Diocese for its schools and it is something that we would like to develop and introduce for our schools in the Diocese of Chester. The award recognises the strong links and partnership that exist between the school and its parish church, which is mutually beneficial for both. It is a wonderful example of how well school and church can work together for the benefit of children and young people. I wish to express my personal congratulations and thanks to everyone involved in this work at Marple All Saints and hope that this will be the first of many awards that we are able to make.

We look forward to receiving news from more of our schools for our final edition of the DBE Schools Bulletin for this school year in July. Please send your contributions to [sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org](mailto:sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org)

## News from Schools

### Bebington St Andrew's C of E Primary School



Bebington St Andrew's C of E Primary have been embracing the diversity and differences in the community. One of the main focuses has been making the school welcoming to everyone as part of their work towards the School of Sanctuary Award. As part of the school vision to bear the Fruit of the Spirit they have focused on how they can show love and kindness and be grateful for differences and unique qualities.



During Interfaith Week, each class produced a Handkerchief of Hope which was put together to make a whole school Welcome banner. This banner welcomes anyone of any faith or no faith to the school and serves as a reminder that we are all different, all equal. The banner hangs proudly in our entrance hall. In addition, school families designed fabulous welcome posters to be placed around the school grounds. Everyone was so proud of all the contributions.



Children have really enjoyed learning about World Faiths and the similarities and differences between different world faiths during the spring and summer term. Everyone was particularly grateful to the Homes of Hospitality who provided them with some great Virtual World Faith workshops on the themes of Global Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

## Broadbottom C of E Primary School

A beehive has arrived at school, kindly supplied by Shirley Johnson, who is an apiary specialist and the grandma of a pupil and retired teacher.



Everyone was very excited to become involved in this project and the conservation of bees. The colony will be native to Britain and is a sedentary breed, black in colour and does not swarm.



The children had the chance to try on some bee keeping suits and take a close look at the hive. Shirley is currently developing a colony ready to bring in the very near future. Who knows, they may have Broadie Runny Honey next year.

## Hoole C of E Primary School

Welcoming the children back to school has been such a joy. Everyone really valued being together again and many projects that have been put on hold have quickly moved forward now everyone is back on site. One of these involved a lot of teamwork as the Peace Garden and work was updated on the Allotment Patch, spreading 2 tonnes of topsoil, and creating a growing space for EYFS children. A pond was also dug, lined, and filled. Everyone is excited about seeing it teaming with local wildlife.



For Lent, pupils explored the Pilgrim Pathways material from the Archbishop of York Trust and the children were challenged to think about their personal journey through life. They reflected on the need for a map for life to show the way and how the support of others can help them as they move forward.

Children asked questions about the feelings of the characters and the motivation of Jesus as he gave his life for others. There were wonderful moments, one pupil said, "That's amazing, The Son of God offering to wash my feet."



### Lostock Gralam C of E Primary School

Lostock Gralam C of E Primary recently entered the Chester Cathedral Canon Chancellor award. Their film was sent to them just before the Easter holidays so are awaiting feedback. They really enjoyed putting this together with their Ethos group and Head Students who feel so proud of the children.

Please click [here](#) to watch their film.



### Marton & District C of E Primary School



All children in school designed and created their own butterfly as a symbol of hope at Easter. Each butterfly has been added to a beautiful display to greet any visitors to school.

Capturing the imagination of Year One, it prompted creative writing with some superb results.



### Mollington St Oswald's C of E Primary School



Chloe Neal has been representing St Oswald's and Chester Diocese at the Church of England National Young Leadership Groups.

#### Young Leadership

On Tuesday 27th April, I took part in a Young Leadership Zoom, where pupils from different schools across the UK join together to share ideas, beliefs and experiences. To begin with, we took a vote about "What was the best thing about lockdown?" The most popular answer was spending time with family, followed by going on walks and having time at home.

During this session we looked at different concepts about how to love God, the people around us and ourselves, using the framework of LEAD:

L - Love

E - Example

A - Action

D - Dream

Today, we were looking at letters L and E. We started by thinking about "Who do we look up to and why?" and followed this by watching a video on YouTube on the bible verse, "love your neighbour as yourself". We were exploring ways we can show love, the barriers that we might face in doing so and methods we can use to overcome these obstacles.

During small group discussions we shared that we could show love to God in many ways - we do this every day during our school worship and in saying our school prayer. Equally, we can show love to others daily by simple tasks such as always being kind and making our friends realise that they are important to us and their opinions matter. Most importantly of all we can show love to ourselves by believing in our strengths and striving to overcome our weaknesses. Barriers can be broken down by taking the time to listen to each other and compromising when our opinions differ.

After we looked at how we can show love, we looked at the different ways that Jesus shows love; he showed love Up, Out and In: Up by spending time with God, Out by showing love to others and In by taking time for himself.

I will be taking part in one more session before I finish year 6, where we will be looking at A and D. I have really enjoyed the opportunity to take part and I have gained so much that I can take with me on my journey.

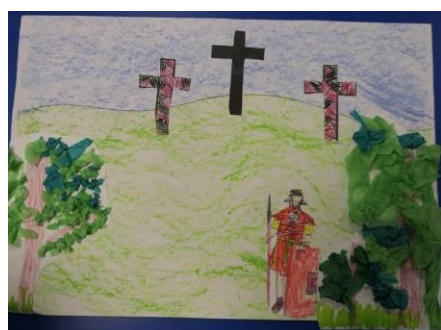
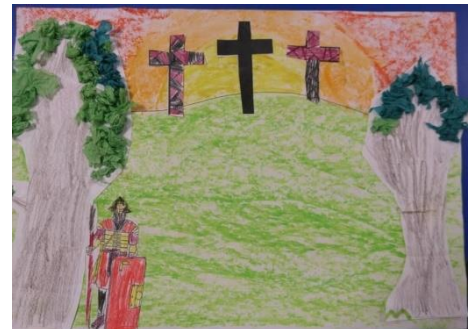
Chloe Neal

### Mossley C of E Primary School

#### **'They shall have life, life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)**

During Holy Week, everyone worked with members of the Congleton Parish to create a piece of Easter artwork.

They had a daily morning Worship video which explained what happened on that day during Holy week. After each morning Worship, pupils were asked to add something to their artwork and the children discussed why these things were important in the Easter story.



The final pieces of artwork showed the palm trees, a Roman soldier, and the hill with crosses. Children had time to reflect on what they had learnt, and their Worship Councillors showed the artwork that each year group had created.

## Overleigh St Mary's C of E Primary School

This term a whole school focus day was on the Christian Values of Service & Stewardship. It was also the same week as World Day. Everyone thought about Service and Stewardship on a local and a global environmental level through the context of recycling plastic bags. This gave everyone the opportunity to celebrate diversity, and how we can all make a difference and focus on the environment. Every year group explored and discussed the book *One Plastic Bag*. It is written by Lastou Ceesay and based on a true story.



Reception thought about how they could be stewards of God's World and made a pledge of what they can do to help. It was also decided that recycling can help protect God's world in so many ways. The children thought about the animals that God created and made their favourite one from some recycled materials.

Y2 children wrote a pledge identifying ways in which they will help protect our environment.



Y3 used recycled cardboard egg boxes to make birdfeeders to hang from the trees in our playground.

Y4 were prompted by Isatou Ceesay to make something useful from plastic bags. They learned weaving and plaiting techniques and created a swing.

They also decided to make a real difference, by stopping using plastic water bottles in school lunches and swapping to their own reusable bottles, this would save over 5000 water bottles a year. Incredible.

Pupils have written persuasive letters to the school kitchen to stop using plastic water bottles and look at other eco-friendly alternatives.





**Y5** were inspired to write poems - Here is Ellenn's:

*Plastic is a disease polluting our sea,  
Sacred, small sea creatures devour it for tea,  
Mountains of it arrive in stomachs,  
What can we do to stop this?  
One becomes two, then ten, then hundred.*

*Plastic isn't just filling our oceans,  
It's also stealing homes from animals on lands,  
Like a thief robbing a bank  
What do we do with this problem in our hands?  
One becomes two, then ten, then hundred.*

*Sadly plastic is made from chemicals,  
So when factories are melting and burning,  
Up go the chemicals polluting our air,  
But how can we make this plastic reign tear?  
One becomes two, then ten, then hundred.*

*But we still have hope,  
We can change by recycling and using plastic less,  
So when we look to the future we won't see mess.  
When will the plastic pollution be no more?  
A hundred, then ten, then two becomes one,  
then none.*

## Oxton St Saviour's C of E Primary School

### Learning & Discovery Day



Year 5 took part in a Learning and Discovery Festival led by The Wirral School Games PE teachers. They had lots of fun and took part in non-traditional sports and challenged their communication skills with each other.

What a fantastic time everyone had recently with the hatching of 5 duckling eggs. The children and staff have been thoroughly immersed in the whole process from watching the eggs hatch in the incubator to seeing the ducklings grow and develop. The learning opportunities and fun this experience has provided has been truly amazing! The children loved naming them (Nippy, Pongo, Bill, Fluffy and Bruce). Each one of them had little personalities.



**Pott Shrigley Church School**



Over the past few weeks, reception children have been gradually adding text and images to the waterproof cover for their own prayer den in the reception garden. It is now finished, and everyone is so pleased with it. The children were delighted to welcome Foundation governor Audrey Bomford to discover their space and share a prayer.



**St John the Evangelist C of E Primary School**



St John the Evangelist C of E Primary have been exploring ways to make greater use of natural woodland on site and the children have been creating clay faces. The natural materials have been used to create a likeness of each pupil and celebrate what makes each of us unique. We also tried this with a worship theme of everyone being unique and wonderfully and miraculously made.

The children have had a wonderful time making the clay faces and it has given everyone a chance to reflect on what makes us special as individuals but all part of one church family.





**St Mary's C of E Primary School, Halton**

**Runcorn School's Work Tackling Global Poverty Recognised with Christian Aid Award**



*Pupils at St Mary's have been presented with a Bronze Award from Christian Aid's Global Neighbours Scheme for their global citizenship work.*

From curriculum work on 'Saving our Planet', and the toilet twinning 'Blue for Loo' activity, to links with Uganda to donating food for local people, pupils and staff at St Mary's Primary School have been working hard to take their place as global citizens.



**Tarporley C of E Primary School**

All the children across the school from reception to Y6 have been involved in planting over 100 tree and hedge saplings as they thought about God's world. The children said, 'it was hard work but worth the effort'. It was a wonderful way for the school community to come together as they thought about the future world.





**Tushingham -with-Grindley C of E Primary School**

**'Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.' Matthew 6:10**

Class 4 children have made been busy in their RE lessons learning using the Key question: How do Christian communities seek to bring God's Kingdom on earth. They increased their understanding about what is meant by the Kingdom of God by looking at the Kingdom of God artwork on the big frieze found in the 'Understanding Christianity' resource. They then linked it to learning about courageous advocacy and considered what they could do to make an impact on the world. The result of this and other learning which included reading 'Malala's Magic Pencil', was that the children created their own stunning version of the Kingdom of God panel, with each child creating a paint pot or a paint splodge which explained the changes they would like to do to help bring God's Kingdom to earth.



**Warmingham C of E Primary School**



Warmingham C of E Primary had a wonderful two days in school using 'The greatest story ever told'. It focuses on eight concepts at the heart of Christianity. These concepts tell the 'big story' of the Bible through the Old Testament, Creation, Fall, People of God to the New Testament, Incarnation, Gospel, Salvation and Kingdom of God. Each class focused on the concepts that they cover throughout their RE syllabus.



- Otters – Creation and Incarnation.
- Hedgehogs –Gospel and Salvation.
- Squirrels – Fall and Kingdom of God.
- Badgers – People of God.

The children worked collaboratively to understand the meaning of their concept, then created some wonderful artwork which





was be displayed in St Leonard's, Warmingham. They were then displayed in school for classes to use as they cover these areas during their RE lessons.



### Wincle C of E Primary School

Now that school is open more fully, the pupils are enjoying shining like a star in all that they do. They have returned eager to learn and are enjoying topics such as 'Grow your own food', 'The Creakers' and 'Handa's Surprise'. Pupils are enjoying the collaborative aspect of learning now that they are back with their peers. The whole school theme for the remainder of the year, is looking at the Christian value of **respect**. The pupils have begun to identify what respect means.

**The 'R' stands for relationships:** teachers ask and encourage pupils to be respectful to one another, to the school staff and to their families.

**The 'E' stands for everyone:** plan to identify the fact that we must respect everyone.

**The 'S' stands for society:** aim to identify what a society is and how society works in a respectful manner.

**The 'P' is for politeness:** something pupils are encouraged to do continuously. Teachers will be evaluating the impact of being polite to everybody.

**The 'E' stands for the environment:** Pupils & teachers are extremely lucky to be located in such a beautiful environment. Teachers would like pupils to learn how to respect God's world, nurture it, cherish it. The pupils in Jupiter are currently learning about the effects of climate change and have put together a short video pleading with everyone to make a difference. This video will be shared on the school's website and Facebook page.

**The 'C' stands for communication:** over the next few months, everyone will be looking at how to communicate respectfully even if pupils are feeling upset or angry.

**The 'T' stands for touch:** the pupils will look at how we can be respectful with their hands and feet, and link this to their SRE teaching in the summer term.

Families have been encouraged to discuss the value of respect and support the school in helping their child understand how to behave respectfully to everyone. Each week, everyone comes together as a school to share their successes. It is a highlight to be able to worship together and see how pupils are developing in confidence, love, and ability.



# Church & School Partnership Award:

All Saints C of E Primary School & All Saints' Church, Marple



The beautiful village of Marple

***"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, the good news of peace and salvation, the news that the God of Israel reigns!"  
Isaiah 52:7 NLT***

DISCOVERING GOD IN THE ALL SAINTS' WAY

Working together as a...

- T**aking risks!
- E**ncouraging learning
- A**chieving goals
- M**aking memories



All Saints' Primary School and All Saints' Church are incredibly proud to announce that, following our successful application in the Autumn term, we have been awarded the 'Church and School Partnership Award', an award that reviews, celebrates and encourages us to share Jesus with each other even more!

This makes All Saints' the first school and Church in Chester Diocese to receive this award! This award aims to encourage even stronger links between the Church of England schools and the parishes to which they belong.



We are extremely proud of the partnership and links we have with each other as well as our community and we look forward to building on this and making many more special memories together.

All Saints' Primary School and All Saints' Church would like to thank everyone involved in achieving this award and look forward to celebrating this brilliant achievement in the near future. The first celebration being in June when Chris Penn and Jen McIlveen will be visiting our school.

### **WORSHIP & PRAYER LIFE**



All Saints' Church and All Saints' Primary School have a long history of working closely together and supporting one another. Many members of the community are intertwined in school and church life, therefore prayer is an integral part of each of the communities. Members of the church and school community have shown hard work and dedication to develop and implement an inclusive and Christian vision.

Information is helpful for an active prayer life, the church hears about school through newsletters and facts shared within regular prayer meetings at church; likewise school shares news about church people, activities, events and opportunities through weekly collective worships and notices in our school newsletter. Weekly Collective Worship from the Church community enables us both to explore ways we worship our wonderful God. When we do come together as a worshipping community during Church Week both communities are able to enjoy shared known songs, explore and experience together ways we can serve and honour the Lord Jesus. In our gathered times all ages gain encouragement from each other.

### **ACTIVITIES**

One of the most celebrated and greatly anticipated events in the school calendar is that of our annual Church Week in Autumn Term. The children and church members come together to celebrate and engage in exciting and interesting theme based activities. Over the course of the week, the parish provides a timetable of a wide range of activities and opportunities for children to learn and encounter God.

This adds an additional element of interest and eagerness to the event as the children enjoy walking up to the church building from school premises, and soaking up the awe and wonder of the church building itself. This is especially exciting for the children of our school, who do not attend church on a regular basis. The children hear and learn about the history of the church building, the historic bell tower and how the people of the church are involved in the community and church life. The children learn about the stained glass windows, are allowed to ring the church bells and complete treasure

hunts through the church and its grounds. They come away with a plethora of art, poems, prayers, songs, actions, stories, verses and questions that encourage their faith for the year ahead.



### Reading the Bible in a tent in church during our Church Week.

**A quote from the children:** *"Our Church Week is one of the best bits in our school year. We also have exciting and fun collective worships led by people from All Saints' church."*



### Our Colour Run

The children also recently experienced a 'Colour Run' to celebrate Harvest – just one example of many memorable celebrations we have had!

The Easter Experience that Church provided for school was then offered to the whole community on Good Friday. Children brought their parents to the experience too.



## **BUILDINGS**

By sharing the buildings of the church and the school, we believe this has a positive impact on the relationship and links between the communities. The children, school staff and members of the church become even more known and familiar to one another. Our seasonal celebration services are a wonderful way to enable parents and school to know the church building is their place of worship too.

The strong bond between All Saints' school and church provides an excellent foundation for all links to our strong RE curriculum. Projects are created for the children, which fit in with a unit of work on Christianity. Leaders of the church have worked alongside subject leaders in school while implementing new RE ideas, such as the Understanding Christianity curriculum. Both have also played a part in the work we have done in alliance with these charities Christians in Schools Trust, Christian Aid, Compassion, Uganda Centenary School, Potters Village and Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award. Both the school building and the church building, have art work displayed that has been created by the children, whilst being supported by the church community. A prominent church noticeboard displays photos, artwork and writings sharing the school's current activities.



**Bell ringing with one of our governors.**

## **MINISTRY**

School leaders, staff and school governors, who are church members, have worked together creating a mission statement and mission planning to better our Church of England School ethos and mentality. Both communities work together on a variety of ministry projects such as The Pantry, Litter Picking Activities in the community and eco-events e.g. 'Benefits of Bee Keeping' workshops for the children and the ongoing planting trees project. Through the local Churches Together initiative other

ministries have also been invited by our Ethos Group into School to broaden the children's spiritual development.

Instead of an Easter Service for 2021, our most recent Easter 'Zoom around the Rooms' clearly highlighted the high level of discussion and learning that took place around the Easter story. Those of us watching from church were blessed by the children's prayers, understanding and hope.

**A quote from a child:** "The church really helps me to learn more about what God means in my life. It also helps me to know how to make the right choices. I love being a part of our school."



**Litter picking in our community as part of our Young Leaders Award**



**A member of church contributing to our learning on how animals are very important global neighbours.**



"As vicar of All Saint's Church, I am delighted that All Saints' Primary and All Saints' Church have received the Church and School Partnership Award. The award signifies the very close links that exist between church and school and the deep partnership that we have together which benefits all the community. I want to thank, in particular, Sarah Holton (All Saints' Children and Family Worker) and the staff of All Saints' Primary who are so willing to invest in this partnership. We know this benefits, not only the children of All Saints' Primary, but also the church, enriching all of our lives with faith, hope and love, and strengthening the whole community here in Marple." **Rev Daniel Currie**

"As Chair of Governors, I am thrilled that the school has received this award and very proud that All Saints' is the first school in Chester Diocese to do so. The governors are so grateful to all those members of the church who provide such wonderful support to the school and help to make it a place of joy. As it says on our website, "we believe that by working together in the All Saints' way, we can achieve amazing things". **Chair of Governors, Alan Bailey**