Edenfield News

Issue 9: 1st March 2024

Head's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week, we celebrated **World Faith Week**. As a faith school, we continue to foster respect and tolerance for all world faiths and endeavour to learn more about these to improve our understanding of different religions across our local and wider community. On Wednesday, each class delivered a presentation for parents and friends on their chosen world faith. It was a brilliant session and I am sure you share my pride in the children's level of knowledge and respect, as well as the wonderful learning outcomes. The teachers made the learning come alive through a series of school visits, as well as visitors into school. Here is a summary of the children's experiences:

- Class Reception learned all about the faith of Islam. They enjoyed sharing books and stories based on this faith including a story about a little girl who was watching the moon and waiting for the celebration of Eid at the end of Ramadan. They also enjoyed a special visit from Mr Anwar who came in to school to tell them more about the Muslim faith. Mr Anwar showed the children his prayer mat, the clothes that he wore to pray and his Quran, which the children learnt was the special book that Muslim people read. Mr Anwar told the children that Muslim people follow the five pillars of Islam. The children learnt that the five pillars are five special rules. Mr Anwar then showed the children how to write in Arabic. Arabic is the language in which the Quran is written. The children all had a turn at writing their own letters in Arabic which was very difficult but they achieved fantastic results.

- Class 1 learned about Hinduism. They began each day with meditation, to clear their minds of negative thoughts and create a feeling of calm. Throughout the week, they practised Puja - Hindu worship in front of our own class shrine. The children enjoyed handling Hindu artefacts during Puja. They also visited a Mandir in Preston and loved looking at the Hindu Gods and Goddesses and asking lots of questions about the religion. Finally, they took part in a Hindu dancing lesson on Friday with our special visitor Neetal Parekh.

- Class 2 studied the religion 'Sikhism'. Sikhs believe that everyone is equal. The children learnt about the first guru Nanak, his commandments and story and the symbol 'The Khanda'. On Wednesday, Class 2 visited the Guru Nanak Dev Ji Gurdwara in Manchester; they were asked to take off their shoes on entry and wore headscarves to show respect for the religion. All the children experienced life at the Gurdwara and Hardev Singh told them all about the 'langar' (free food provided), '5 Ks' (objects worn on the body), 'Guru Granth Sahib' (holy book) and 'Nisham Sahib' (flag that flies outside the Gurdwara). The children were also very lucky to have Mrs Devi come join them for the afternoon on Thursday to teach them the alphabet and numbers in Punjab and show them some Sikh music using hand drums. She also told them all about visiting the 'Golden Temple' in India which is the biggest Gurdwara in the world.

- Class 3 focused on Buddhism. They listened to, and retold, the story of Prince Siddartha, how he sought enlightenment and how he became the Buddha. They learned that the Noble Eightfold Path is a set of guidelines that help Buddhists live a good life. On the trip to Manchester Buddhist Centre the children took part in mindfulness and meditation sessions which left everyone feeling calm and relaxed.

- Class 5 studied Islam and learnt about the 'Five Pillars of Islam'; researched the parts of the mosque; designed prayer mats and Islamic pattern based on geometric shape and discovered more about Ramadan and Eid-ul-Fitr. They also interviewed a special visitor, Mr Anwar, who is a practising Muslim, asking their own questions about the Islamic faith. These wonderful conversations helped the children to gain a much deeper understanding of Islam.

- The focus faith for Year 4 was Judaism. They looked at some of the different festivals such as Passover and Hanukkah to find out how Jews celebrate. They also enjoyed a visit from Ann Angel, a Jewish teacher, to find out more about Shabbat and the Jewish way of life. The children enjoyed looking at Jewish artefacts including a kippah and a Seder plate.

- Year 6 studied Sikhism where they produced an information booklet all about Sikhism which included: a biography about the life of Guru Nanak, a balanced argument about the Kirpan, an information page about the Five K's, and a recount of their visit to the Dev Ji Gurdwara in Manchester.

Please enjoy the photographs of the children busy at work during ***World Faith Week*** overleaf.

Reading Week

As you know, reading week commences next week to coincide with World Book Day. Please see the letters sent home last week for full details. In the meantime, we are looking forward to welcoming grandparents and family into school on Thursday 7th March – please return your slips to confirm attendance. A reading week presentation for parents will also follow so the children can share all their wonderful work and experiences – date to be confirmed.

Worship

So far, this half term, we have been reflecting on the period of Lent, as well as special stories about Jesus. We explored how Ash Wednesday is a day when we can all be open and honest, admit our guilt or mistakes and walk into the future with a clear conscience. It is really brave to be humble and admit that we sometimes get things wrong. However, we all agreed that that it does help to acknowledge that we all make mistakes and that none of us are perfect. It is also a sign that we are willing to make a new start. We know that Ash Wednesday takes place just over six weeks before Easter Sunday and marks the start of the period when Christians think about the sacrifices Jesus made during the 40 days he spent in the desert, when he fasted and was tempted three times by the devil. To remind ourselves of the sacrifices Jesus made, it is traditional for us, as Christians, to make a small regular sacrifice of our own. We might give up a luxury or volunteer our time to help others. We shared ideas about what we could give up for lent or how we can do something positive in the next six weeks in the lead up to Easter. We linked this to the Archbishop of York Young Leaders and the food bank Y1 are launching and the planet savers project started by Y5. We all agreed that small changes can make a difference.

We also listened to the story of the ten Lepers (Luke 17.11-19). At the end we reflected on the main messages. We discussed how it is good, important and nice to say thank you to God and to other people. Next we also considered Jesus' attitude towards people who were marginalised and discriminated against by others in society. Jesus showed no prejudice towards the leprosy sufferers and was willing to help them. We thought about how groups of people today face discrimination and how we should always treat others equally and as we wish to be treated ourselves. We prayed to God and thanked him for his love, guidance and support.

Epic

This week Year 5 are EPIC because …

They have been reflecting on the need to say 'thank you' both in worship and as part of their Young Leaders' Award. This is important because, as a school, we need to recognise that we are very fortunate to live in a safe country without war or conflict. Year 5 have been taking part in tasks which reveal injustice and exploitation such as the 'Rupee bag challenge' where they made as many paper bags as they could in ten minutes, only to reveal that in India, they would have only earned 10p for their labour.

The children have been living out their Christian faith and following God's word by being appreciative of what they have and showing this appreciation by helping others around them. This includes organising a fund raising event as part of Red Nose Day in two weeks' time. As 'Planet Savers' Year 5 aim to protect not only people, but also God's planet. The children have been focusing on recycling initiatives and aim to study and promote ways of looking after the planet through 'Reading Week' using the text ***Old Enough to Save the Planet***.

To conclude, happy March! Spring is edging closer with brighter, lighter days. Have a lovely weekend!

Warm wishes,

C. L. Garner

Guided by God, following in his footsteps

Our vision is theologically centred on Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path

The Children Enjoying World Faith Week















A Week In Pictures



Class 2
Class 2 enjoyed some outdoor learning in science. They classified lots of different objects into 'alive', 'dead' and 'never been alive' and explained their reasons for how these were grouped.



Class Reception
Class Reception learned all about the United Kingdom as part of their Amazing Adventures topic.



Class 3
Class 3 investigated forces in action.



Class 6
Class 6 read 'The Lost Words' by Robert McFarlane and enjoyed creating their own poems inspired by nature.



Class 5
Class 5 composed a dance to represent stars and planets in the solar system.



Class 1
Class 1 looked at materials in science. They used scientific vocabulary to describe what the different materials felt like.



Class 4
Class 4 enjoyed learning to play the glockenspiel in music.

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Extra-Curricular Activities

Spring Term 2024

Clubs take place from the end of the school day until 4.15pm unless otherwise indicated.

Day	Activity	Year Group
Mon	**Equality Champions**	Year 6 (Lunchtime club)
Tues	**Ethos Champions**	Year 6 (During school day)
Tues	**Netball**	Years 5 and 6
Tues	**Skiing**	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
Tues	**Boys Football**	Years 5 and 6
Weds	**Lego Club**	Year 2
Weds	**Chess Club**	Years 5 and 6 (Spring Term 2)
Weds	**Singing Club**	Year 4, 5 and 6
Thurs	**Mindfulness/Wellbeing**	Year 1
Thurs	**Horse Riding**	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 (until 5pm)
Thurs	**Digital Leaders**	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Lunchtime club)
Fri	**Infant Multi-Sports**	Years 1 and 2

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY SO FAR

Thurs 7th Mar	World Book Day
Thurs 7th Mar	Read with my Grandparent day
Mon 11th Mar	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 7pm
Tues 12th Mar	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 5pm
Thurs 14th Mar	Class R visit to Manchester Airport Runway
Thurs 14th Mar	Class 3 visit to Deva Roman Museum
Fri 15th Mar	Class 6 visit to Stratford-upon-Avon
Fri 15th Mar	Red Nose Day
Thurs 21st Mar	Class 2 visit to Chester Zoo
Fri 22nd Mar	Last Choir Singing Heat at Blackburn Cathedral
Mon 25th Mar	Class 5 and 6 Tower Wood residential visit
Tues 26th Mar	Class 5 and 6 Tower Wood residential visit
Wed 27th Mar	Class 5 and 6 Tower Wood residential visit
Thurs 28th Mar	Easter service at Edenfield Parish Church, 1.30pm
Thurs 28th Mar	School closes for Easter
Mon 15th Apr	School re-opens
Fri 3rd May	Inset day
Mon 6th May	May Bank Holiday
Tues 7th May	School re-opens
Wed 15th May	Class 1 visit to Smithills Farm
Fri 24th May	School closes for half term
Mon 3rd Jun	Inset day
Tues 4th Jun	School re-opens

Thought of the Week

Lent

"He fasted for forty days *and* forty nights..."

STARS OF THE WEEK

Friday 9th February

Reception Class: Lottie Neave, Sylvie Lee

Class 1: Ethan Mellish, Eliza Riding

Class 2: William Walker, All of Class 2

Class 3: Cecily Sweet, Harvey Bracewell

Class 4: Jacob Higgins, Riley O'Toole

Class 5: Archie Taylor, Catherine Riley

Class 6: Malachy-Jay Coulson, Oliver Taylor

Friday 23rd February

Reception Class: George Proctor, Amber Taylor

Class 1: Elliott Nelson, All of Class 1

Class 2: Esmie Dickinson, All of Class 2

Class 3: Isla Young, All of Class 3

Class 4: Freddie Hulme, Jack Thomas Lovick

Class 5: Alexander Ball, Harrison Major

Class 6: Nancy Booth, Hunter Mitchell

Friday 23rd February

Reception Class: Indie Cunniff, Alice Ma

Class 1: To be announced next week

Class 2: Esmae Gowing, Oscar Scully

Class 3: Thomas Milne, Iris Riding

Class 4: Carter Hudson, Brooklyn Donnelly

Class 5: Eliza Kearsley, Bella Ingoe

Class 6: Amber Lovick, Lucas Thompson

School Contacts

If you wish to contact the school regarding your child, please address your message to: head@edenfield.lancs.sch.uk or bursar@edenfield.lancs.sch.uk . This will ensure you receive a prompt response to your enquiry. General enquiries can be sent to the school email address. This is checked on a regular basis, but it is inundated by thousands of junk posts each week and therefore, there may be a delay in response.

Dinner Debts

A reminder, as per our School Meal Arrangements, Payment and Debt Policy, all school meals should be paid for in advance. ParentPay will allow you to apply credit to your account daily, weekly, monthly or adhoc. Therefore no debit balances should appear on your account.
If you have any queries, please contact the school office as soon as possible.