

CATHOLIC LIFE AND MISSION NEWSLETTER



CREATION

September - October 2024



Welcome to the first Catholic Life and Mission Newsletter of our new academic year. We hope you find it a helpful way of finding out what your child has been learning in RE lessons. It is also an opportunity to learn about the things that have been taking place in school, as we live out our Catholic Life and Mission.

Launching our new Pupil Chaplaincy Team



We are delighted to introduce you to our new Pupil Chaplaincy Team. These children have been selected to work alongside the staff Chaplaincy Team. They each wrote a letter to Mrs Taylor, outlining why they felt passionate about sharing the Gospel and helping FCJ grow as a faith community.

The children have met with Mrs Taylor throughout the month of September and discussed ideas they have for sharing our FCJ mission and values with the wider community. They have also spent time leading a Prayer Pal session and preparing displays about the Rosary, in preparation for October.





Marie
Madeleine
A Woman for
our Time



To celebrate Marie Madeleine's birthday, children in Reception class made birthday cards, collaged and painted birthday cake pictures, made yummy cupcakes and played party games!

The Congregation of the Faithful Companions of Jesus was founded in France in 1820 and Saturday 21st September marked the birthday of our Foundress, Marie Madeleine d'Houët. In school we are inspired by the life and mission of Marie Madeleine every day. This year, as always, we took time on her birthday to remember her life and how the FCJ Order was founded.



A Woman for our Time



Celebrating Marie Madeleine



5T took time out from their residential trip to mark Marie Madeleine's birthday. Members of the Chaplaincy team planned a short Celebration of the Word and led the class through a time of prayer. The children used their lanterns as a focal point. It was a very special celebration, and the children especially enjoyed singing My Lighthouse and Great Big God.

As part of the celebrations for Marie Madeleine, the Pupil Chaplaincy team launched an art competition which is open to all pupils. Artwork can be completed on A4 paper or card using paints, colours, felt-tips, collage or completed digitally.

Category 1

Draw a picture of Marie Madeleine d'Houet. This can either be a portrait or a picture of her working with children or with the sick and poor.

Category 2

Draw a picture that captures one of our FCJ Core Values. Make sure you include the correct spelling of the Value you pick.

Category 3

Draw a picture that captures our FCJ Motto Res Non Verba.

The winning artwork will be framed and displayed around school. There will also be prizes for the winners. The Pupil Chaplaincy team, alongside FCJ staff, will be selecting the winners.

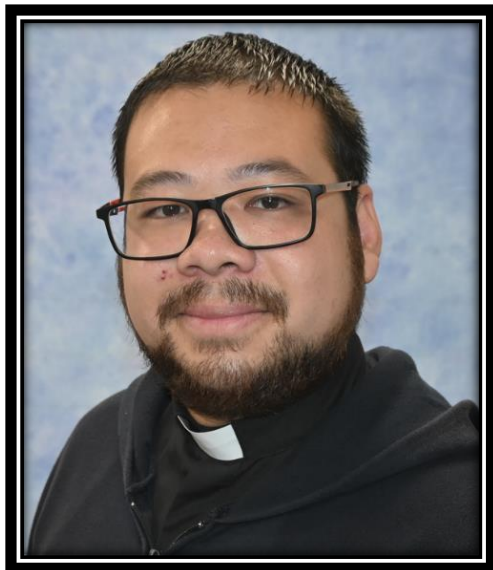
Please ensure your child's entry has their name and class on the back. Please hand any entries to your class teacher. **The deadline is Monday 14th October.**

The latest copy of the Marie Madeleine newsletter is available to view here

<https://d3bokmeplpg5n0.cloudfront.net/prod/uploads/2024/09/MM-Newsletter-Sept-2024-EN.pdf>



Welcome Father Ambrose!



We are delighted to introduce Father Ambrose. He is visiting school to support the work in our Religious Education lessons. Father Ambrose has visited Year 5, Reception class and Pre-school. He has also celebrated the first whole school Mass for this academic year.

Catholic Social Teaching

As part of our celebrations for Marie Madeleine's birthday, each class has picked a charity or organisation to support during the year. These include -the Grace Croker Trust Jersey, The Shelter Trust, CAFOD and Mission Together.

Further details will be sent from each class teacher over the course of the year.

Mustard Seed Jersey

As always, we love supporting this important cause and we would love to donate even more shoeboxes than ever. As a Rights Respecting School, we want to support children around the world and the Mustard Seed initiative enables our children to reflect upon this and will provide a further opportunity for us to support others.

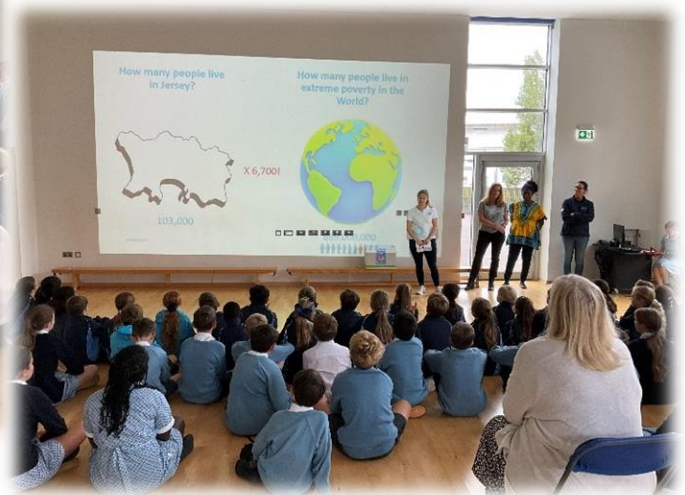
This year Mustard Seed will be sending shoeboxes to Ukraine and Romania. We are still collecting shoeboxes in school and the closing date will be **Wednesday 16th October**.

Catholic Social Teaching

Our next RE topic focuses on Catholic Social Teaching (CST). Each class will focus on developing their knowledge of CST and then apply it into a practical project. The next RE newsletter will celebrate the learning from this topic from across the school. For more information about CST, please see the resources available from CAFOD at <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Catholic-social-teaching>



Women leading the way out of poverty



We were delighted to welcome Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA) into school with one of their partners - Opportunity International. Pupils from Year 5 and 6 enjoyed a wonderful presentation, learning more about the work these two organisations. The children had many questions and several pupils stayed behind at the start of breaktime to learn more and ask further questions.

We received some lovely feedback from Lisa Downes (Communications and engagement officer from JOA). "I just wanted to say thank you for hosting us last week – we really enjoyed meeting some of your pupils – they asked some fabulous questions and were beautifully polite."

We look forward to working alongside JOA in the year ahead in our role as a Gold Rights Respecting School.



CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development



FAIRTRADE

**BRIGHTEN
UP** this **HARVEST**
and **BUILD** a
BRIGHTER WORLD

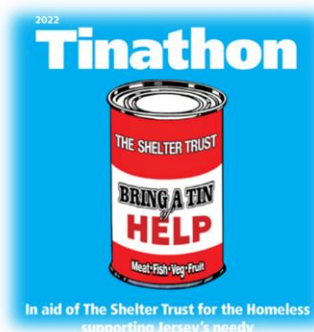


Matt Bowers from CAFOD came to visit Year 4 to tell them about this amazing charity. They were inspired to create posters to inform the rest of the school about CAFOD and how we can help raise money. As a year group, Year 4 would love to raise enough money this year to be able to purchase a home for life.



Fairtrade Fortnight, Shelter Trust Tinathon and CAFOD Harvest assembly

We were thrilled to support several organisations during September. As well as learning more about the work of Fairtrade and CAFOD, we collected over 170 tins for the Shelter Trust.



Year 2

In Year 2, we were really inspired looking at God's creation and understanding what we can do as good stewards to help look after the environment. Firstly, we explored the story of Noah's Ark and the promise that God made. We discussed how we could be a role model just like Noah.

Then, we learnt about the story of Jonah and the Whale to consider our actions and how we can help others follow the Word of God. We made good comparisons between the two stories to explore what they taught us. We had a great time role playing these stories too!

When celebrating Marie Madeleine's birthday, we came up with our own project of raising awareness for the 'Grace Crocker Foundation'. We look forward to working on this project this year.



Year 4

In Year 4 we have fully emersed ourselves in our RE learning during September. As part of our celebrations for Marie Madeleine's birthday we explored what is like to have courage and confidence and how we can develop these traits just like Marie Madaline our FCJ foundress.

We have also been on a trip to St. Luke's Church to visit the view the Earth Day icon. This was created by a local artist Karen Blampied and focuses on elements of the Bible story of Creation. It features over 101 endangered species. This helped us to consider how we can be stewards of God's creation. We were very grateful to Chris Knight for giving her time to share this with us. Thank you Chris!



Year 6

This half-term, the children have explored what it means to be the 'People of God' through the eyes of Moses, by considering their Big Question: 'Is It Easy Being One of the People of God?' We have considered that we exist in a world created by God, and that we can exercise our freedom to deepen our relationship with Him and overcome the barriers of jealousy and disharmony. The children have deeply reflected on why we need to follow God's law and by upholding the commandments, we uphold the will of God. Upholding the will of God involves personal choices and often sacrifices. The nature of these sacrifices has also been explored by the children and how that makes them 'People of God'.



"My dad loves helping people from his home country. Some months back, he collected clothes from people in Jersey. One morning, we got to church early to pack the clothes into bags. It took time but when we were finished it was totally worth it."

By Hadassah (Year 4)

We now have a donation box in the entrance of school for any clothes that can be given to Hadassah's family for their charity work.

