St Mary's News 2021 March Issue 5

Dear Parents,

We are pleased to have made it to the end of the Spring term; we are equally pleased to be able to share much good news with you. Please find below details of the most recent funds raised and end of term news.

- Reconciliation Congratulations- Y3, we were so very proud of your beautiful penitential service in school, last week. I know that Mrs Hayes has tweeted a flavour of the event, via photographs and videos; I know that she has also placed this on the class page for all of you to enjoy. Fr Craig and Fr Malcolm were very impressed with you, too. Now we just need you to continue to think carefully of how your actions affect others- positively and negatively, more and more, in school and at home.. Thank you to Mrs Hayes and Mrs Kennedy for supporting the children.
- Holy Communion parents' meetings- These will be virtually posted on the school website by Friday 23rd April. Please make sure that you look carefully at them, for your child.
- End of term- School closes for the Easter break on Thursday 1st April and re opens on Monday 19th April.
- Stations of the Cross This was a great moment of total respect, reverence and a chance for the children to live out their Gospel Virtues, this morning. The cross was escorted from class to class, where the children acted out the differing stations, culminating in a joyous moment of the "resurrection" led by Reception. Children were challenged in all senses to take part in The Way of the Cross- Christ's final journey-to hear the message through song a prayer), to see the message(through role play and art), to feel the message (through poignant mimes and reflective discussion), to sense the importance of the story (through incense).

Staff were very proud of your children. Mrs Smith has tweeted a tribute to it-thanks to her, Mrs Amann and to Daniel, our thurible bearer, who escorted the cross so reverently. The presentation can be viewed on the homepage of the website. It is well worth five minutes in your busy week, if you have not had chance to see the tweet.

<u>Lenten Charities</u>: Words cannot express how bowled over I am, once again, at your generosity towards those less fortunate than yourselves. Thank you very much. To date, the funds received in school are as follows:

- Walk for Water has no raised £619+
- The Easter raffle, led by the Mini Vinnies. has raised £230+
- Gospel Values Please share with your child that you (and they) are living out the Gospel Values every time you choose to
 be grateful in your donations or in your time for others. This week has demonstrated both of these in so many different
 ways.
- <u>School Fund</u>-continues to grow, with a further £80 being donated, bringing out current total to over £1,000 since September. Thank you, parents, we will send pictures of how we begin to spend it.
- Y6 Grab bag to Go this will commence for all of Y6 children on Monday 19th April. Please ignore the menu for that day Y6. Your Grab Bag will be a hot sausage or bacon roll, a cake, fruit and yoghurt. This can be eaten outside, weather permitting

March/April updates and reminders -

Two stars and a wish emails to parents. These have been in operation across school, now, for the last three weeks. Staff have listened and responded to parents requests to know if "everything is alright". They have also found greater time available to them, now that parents are off site more quickly. They have, therefore been able to engage in emails home to you, sharing two positives and one area to improve upon, for your child.. We have had very many thank yous and appreciative comments back. This will continue, into the Summer term- not every week for your child, but regularly and at least termly, per child.

<u>Homework Club</u> continues to be well attended. It will recommence on the first week back after Easter for all invited children

<u>Toast</u>- The gateway is now open, once more, for Toast money at 20p per slice, for the Summer term.

