



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of what turned out to be a rather turbulent term, we continue to be grateful to each member of our St Augustine's community for the determination and resilience demonstrated. Our children continue to amaze us and it is a privilege to watch them flourish and enjoy their time in school.

This final fortnight has been especially lovely as we have moved closer to the great celebration of Easter. During our 'eggstravaganza' of egg decorating last week, we were overwhelmed to see the team work and creativity demonstrated across school, from our very youngest nursery children right through to our swiftly maturing Year 6 cohort.

Time to reflect has been key since the full return to school and our school Chapel has really come into its own with regularly changing prayer stations set up by Mini Vinnies and Chaplaincy Team children. The responses to the individual prayer spaces have been very moving and thoughtful, demonstrating the depth of feeling our children have for others.

We would like to thank you for your incredibly generous donations of food and dried goods for our Easter Appeal; the Parish will be able to share this food with refugee families most in need.

This week has seen daily collective worships across school which have helped the children become more familiar with the events of Holy Week. Our Reception children visited our newly created forest school area to recreate Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Yesterday, Monsignor Gerard led a whole school virtual collective worship helping us all to reflect on goodness, forgiveness and the events of Holy Week.

As we approach the end of the season of Lent, let us reflect upon the key message of hope offered to us through the great celebration of Easter. At the beginning of Lent, Pope Francis asked that we be increasingly concerned with "speaking words of comfort, strength, consolation and encouragement, and not words that demean, sadden, anger or show scorn." In order to give hope to others, it is sometimes enough simply to be kind, to show interest, to give the gift of a smile, to speak a word of encouragement and to listen. Throughout these troubled times, it is essential that we retain and offer others hope. The wonderful celebration of Easter, of the risen Lord, provides the perfect example of hope. May God bless you and your families and let us look forward with hope in our hearts.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Macaulay
Executive Headteacher

Mrs L Rehbohm
Head of School

Serve the Lord in gladness

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