



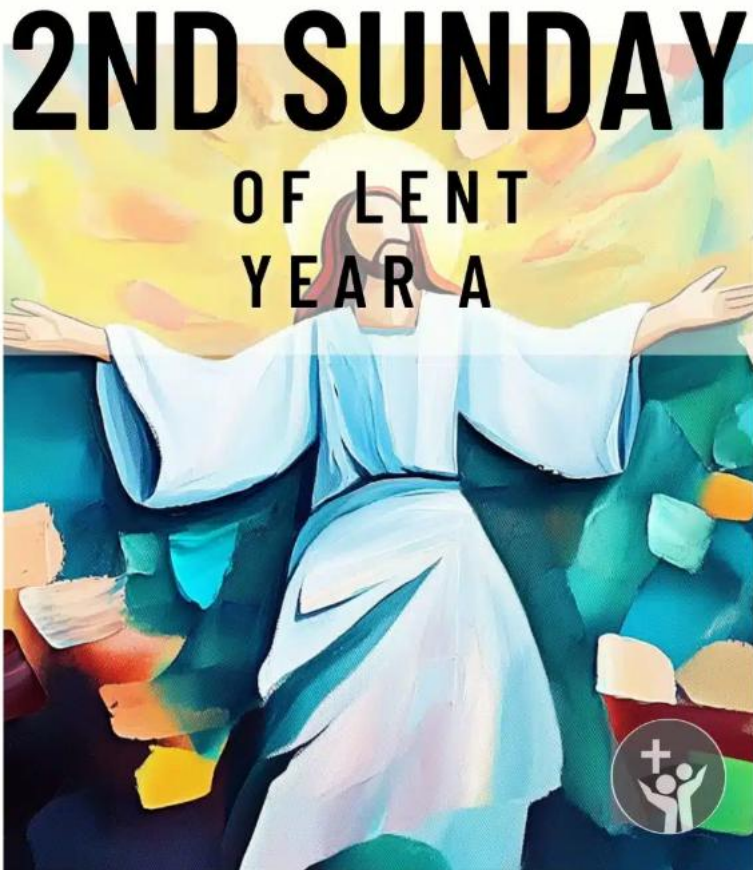
Welcome back to what is affectionately known as my favourite part of the school year! Spring is springing, the daffodils are beginning to bloom, and we are given time during Lent to invited into us into a time of prayer, reflection, sacrifice, and renewal as we journey together towards Easter with hopeful and open hearts. It is a season that calls each of us—students, staff, and families—to grow closer to God and to one another through acts of kindness, forgiveness, and service.

We will encourage the children to reflect on the meaning of Lent, to embrace opportunities for compassion and generosity, and to live out our Gospel values in their daily actions. Whether through prayer liturgies, charity initiatives, or simple acts of care in the playground, we are reminded that even small sacrifices made with love can make a meaningful difference.

As always there is lots of exciting and interesting things happening this term, please do the check the fortnightly 'Looking Ahead' dates at the end of the newsletter along with the website diary which is regularly updated [here](#).

Have a super weekend
Mrs McBrown

Sunday 2nd March – Walking towards the Light



The 2nd Sunday of Lent shows us how God calls people to trust Him. In each reading, we see someone stepping forward with faith. Abram leaves his home. The disciples follow Jesus up the mountain. Paul tells Timothy to keep going even when life is hard. These readings help us see that Lent is a time to listen and follow. God may lead us in ways we do not expect. We are not meant to stay in one place. Just like Abram and the disciples, we are called to move forward with hope.

Loving Father in Heaven, you took your Son, Jesus, up a high mountain and let His friends see His bright and beautiful glory. Help us to listen to Jesus, your beloved Son. Help us to trust you, just like Abraham did, even when we don't understand everything. Change our hearts during this Lenten season. Teach us to pray, to share, and to make small sacrifices with love. Stay close to us as we follow Jesus, so that one day we may share in His joy and light. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Y2 and Y3 Class Liturgies

This week, and just before half term, we enjoyed liturgies from Years 2 and 3 who shared their learning in thought provoking ways. Y2 considered things they were sorry for and how they would be trying for a fresh start, linking this to their learning about Baptism. Y3 shared their learning of the parables of 'Jesus healing the paralysed man' and 'The parable of the Sower' through some super drama which brought their Bible narrations to life. Thank you to Miss Torley and Miss Kaur for preparing the children so beautifully.

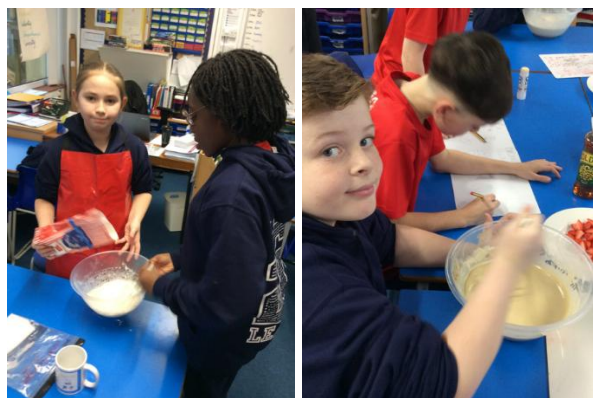
Y5 at Tower of London



Just before half term Y5 headed off to the Tower of London to enrich their curriculum learning topic of the Tudors. Being immersed in such a beautiful historical building was a super experience for the children and one I'm sure they will remember! Thank you to Mr Lovell and team for organising such a super trip.



Y6 Pancake Bonanza!



Y6 delighted us with their pancake making, practising real life context measuring skills alongside their cooking and hosting – well done Year 6!

Uniform

The children's school uniform is exceptionally smart – a huge thank you to you all for supporting this. Please may you ensure that your child's hair accessories – bows, bands, clips and beads - are in school colours and that your child is wearing their school tie. Thank you. The full uniform list, which was created in consultation with parents last summer, can be found [here](#) if you are unsure.

The Scholastic Book Fair is back!

The St Joseph's PTA are excited to welcome the return of our Book Fair - the first since 2019! Last time we raised an amazing £700, and we're hoping to beat that total this year to provide even more wonderful resources for our children. The Fair will be held in the Satellite Room after school on Tuesday 17th and Friday 20th March. World Book Day vouchers (one per pupil) can also be used towards purchases. We're also running a competition - five pupils (one from each House plus one overall winner) will each receive a £5 voucher to spend at the Fair – more details to follow!

Payment is easy: simply scan the QR code on the posters to access the ParentPay website. Please bring your credit/debit card. We hope to see you there!

Extra-curricular activities

This Sunday Emily from Year 5 and Sonia from Year 6 are competing together in the GDO world championship qualifier in Crawley Sussex. Girls, we wish you the best of luck!

Looking Ahead... Spring term	
Monday 2 nd March 2.45pm	Y2 Rugby Workshops (rescheduled due to coach's sickness)
Wednesday 4 th March	Lent Stay and Pray - come and join the GIFT team to prepare yourself for Easter as part of our Lenten preparations
Thursday 5 th March 9.10am	World Book Day Parade
Friday 6 th March 9.15am	Year 5 and Year 1 attending Mass
Wb 9 th March	Big Lent Walk – further detail to follow
Monday 9 th + Tuesday 10 th March	Mother's Day Wrap (PTA) – please see our school website news page and our social media pages for additional information.
Wednesday 11 th - 13 th March	Y6 Residential - Stubbers
Friday 13 th March	Y3 and Y2 at Mass
Week beg 16 th March	Scholastic Book Fair
Wednesday 18 th March 2.45pm	Lent Stay and Pray – come and join the GIFT team to prepare yourself for Easter as part of our Lenten preparations
Thursday 19 th March	Feast Day of St Joseph – further detail to follow.
Tuesday 24 th March 2.30pm	Y3 and Y4 Easter Production
Wednesday 25 th March 9.15am	Rock Steady Concert
Thursday 27 th	Easter Egg Competition – further detail to follow

Please remember to check the school website [here](#) for further dates and details.

Parish Links

Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Church

Father Anthony Cho

30 Southend Rd

Stanford-Le-Hope

Essex

SS17 0PF

Tel: 01375 672167

Email - tilbury@brcdt.org

Website - <https://www.ourladyandstjosephchurch.org.uk/welcome.htm>

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday

6.30 p.m. TILBURY

Sunday

9.00 a.m. TILBURY

11.00 a.m. STANFORD

5.30 p.m. STANFORD

Baptisms/OCIA: If you, your child or anyone you know would like to become a baptised Catholic then please contact our local parish via stanfordlehope@brcdt.org.

Hiring of Stanford-le-Hope Parish Hall

This is open to Parishioners only of Stanford and Tilbury Parishes. The rate of hiring the hall is £25 per hour and £100 deposit, refundable upon satisfactory return of the hall. The person to contact for hall hire is Colette Clark email: colette.9meadowclose@gmail.com Once you have confirmed your hiring date with Colette all payments must be paid into the Parish Account no later than two weeks before your event. If payment is not made two weeks before your event, then the booking will be cancelled. Hiring of the hall is on a 'first come first served basis'.