



**Statements to live by:**

**Week Beg 8<sup>th</sup> Feb:** I co-operate with others in work and play

**Week Beg 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb:** I try to use words that make the world a better place (please, sorry, thank you)

**Feast Of the Presentation** It was lovely to welcome so many parents/carers who attended the special Liturgy held for this feast on Tuesday morning. Thank you to all the children who read and to the Reception children who acted out our gospel story.

**Ash Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>February** Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the season of preparation for the Church's greatest celebration: Easter. Easter and therefore Lent fall very early this year. Although next Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation Years 4,5, and 6 will be going to church for 10.00 a.m. Mass and distribution of ashes. Please see the attached sheet for information about Lent in School and the ways in which you can help your child to keep the season of Lent and get ready to celebrate at Easter.

**Holocaust Memorial Ceremony** This is always a very sad and moving event. This year we took all of year 6 to the service because they had been learning about the holocaust in their history topic on the Second World War. There are of course less actual witnesses to give testimony each year, making this even more important for our children to learn about the holocaust and continue to take part in such memorial events.

**Diocesan Youth Celebration** Thank you to Eleanor and Thomas in Y6 who attended the special celebration at the Cathedral on Wednesday and presented £135.70 which was the money raised by school for the Youth Ministry Team (Wear something Purple).

**Eurovision Song contest.** We were so proud of our special choir who were highly commended by the judges and drew many very positive comments from Heads and Teachers of other schools, at this competition held at the Civic Theatre. We were delighted to be part of such a fun event. Thanks to everyone who helped with choreography and costumes and to parents and carers of the singers for their fantastic support!

**Music for Youth** I have had very positive comments and notes from proud Y6 parents who enjoyed a day out at the SAGE, Gateshead, supporting our own Y6 band and enjoying the contributions of other young musicians. Special thanks to Mr McGeeney for all his hard work and the additional time he has given to this activity.

**Active Kids Vouchers**

We are again collecting the vouchers which help us to get extra Sport equipment and coaching for school. Please send vouchers into school with your child or drop them into the box at the office. Vouchers paid for a ballroom dancing workshop for every class and has led to us starting an after-school club.

**Dinner Money** - Dinner money for next half term (22<sup>nd</sup> Feb to 24<sup>th</sup> March) is £48.00. Dinner money is £2.00 per day. Please ensure that if you select a school meal for your child that the meal contains things that he/she will eat.

**Free School Meals** - If you feel you may be eligible for free school meals please call at the office for more details or visit [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk). Whilst all Reception and Key Stage 1 children are eligible for a free meal in school, parents/carers who are eligible for free school meals still need to complete a form so that school can receive additional Pupil Premium funding which helps the children.

### After School/lunchtime Clubs next half term.

Some Sports clubs will restart after the half term break e.g. Football and Netball.

We also hope to be able to provide some different clubs and will send out further information next week.

### Dates and Events

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb       | School closes for half term  |
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb       | School reopens for pupils.   |
| Starting W/C 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb | Pedestrian Training for children in Y1 and Y2  |
| Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb      | Mass in School - Y5  |
| Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb       | CAFOD Lent Fast Day - Children wear own clothes for a minimum £1.00 donation<br>Liturgy led by Y3 2.45pm - Everyone welcome. |
| Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March.    | Pupils in St David's House can wear own clothes (including something YELLOW) for this celebration.                           |
| Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March.   | Mass in School 9.30am<br>World Book Day  |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March   | Mass in School 9.30am  |
| Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March     | Parish Stations of the Cross in Church Led by KS2 pupils<br>Everyone welcome   |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March   | Mass in School   |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March     | Sport Relief Day   |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> March     | <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>   |

### HOLY WEEK

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> March         | Stations of the Cross in School. - Led by reception and KS1<br>Everyone Welcome                       |
| Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March        | KS2 Lent Liturgy in Church. Everyone Welcome  |
| <b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b> | <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b><br>End of Term 3.25 p.m.<br>Mass of the Last Supper 7.00 p.m. in Church        |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March         | <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> - Stations of the Cross 10.00 a.m. in Church<br>Solemn Liturgy 3.00 p.m. in Church |
| Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> March       | <b>HOLY SATURDAY</b> - Easter Vigil Mass 8.00p.m.   |
| Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> March         | <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> - 9.15 a.m. Mass<br>11.00 a.m. Mass  |
| Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> April        | School reopens for Pupils   |

### Parking

Sadly, I have been contacted again by residents because of illegal and inconsiderate parking on Beechwood Avenue and Southend Avenue. Please do not park in resident parking bays. Consider arriving earlier, parking safely and walking a short distance to school.

Please do not park in the school grounds if you arrive late for the start of the school day.

Thank you for your continuing help and support

Mrs M McCollom  
(Head of School)

## LENT IN ST. AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL.

In school we focus on **Prayer - Fasting- Almsgiving** - as the key activities for Lent.

As a staff, we have talked about how we can:

- **Ensure extra prayer** - give a little extra time to prayer in the school day/ invite children to attend the prayer group/ take a small group of children to Mass one lunchtime each week.
- **Model fasting and abstinence.** Giving something up for a week is a great effort and easier for children to keep to. You might choose a different thing to give up/ have less of each week of Lent.
- **Encourage Almsgiving.** Again it is not about large amounts but giving a little and recognising how much more we have than others.

This year we are having themed weeks in school and trying to raise a little money for a different cause each week.

| WEEK   | THEME   | FUNDRAISING   |
|--|---|---|
| Week Beg. 15 <sup>th</sup> February<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Lent  | <b>Help Week</b><br><i>finding ways to help around the home during half term</i>  | Try giving up sweets for the week. Bring in the money saved to give to a project in <b>Uganda.</b>  |
| Week Beg 22 <sup>nd</sup> February<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent<br>Mass in School - Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb<br>9.30 a.m. | <b>Smile Week</b><br><i>Share a smile with as many people as possible. Treat others in a way that makes them smile.</i>           | <b>CAFOD</b> (Catholic Aid For Overseas Development)<br>Non-Uniform Day Donations<br>Fast Day Liturgy - Led by Year 3 Fri. 26 <sup>th</sup>               |
| Week Beg. 29 <sup>th</sup> February<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of Lent<br>Mass in School Thu 3 <sup>rd</sup> March<br>9.30 a.m. | <b>Listen to Jesus Week</b><br><i>Spend a little extra time on short excerpts/stories from the Bible</i>                          | Mini Vinnies Foodbank collection  |
| Week Beg 7 <sup>th</sup> March<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Week of Lent<br>Mass in School<br>Thu 10 <sup>th</sup> March<br>9.30 a.m.  | <b>Say sorry Week</b><br><i>Take time to reflect on things for which we need to say sorry. Think about how we want to change.</i> | Bring 5 pence pieces into school to try to make the longest line of coins possible. Money raised to go to <b>St. Cuthbert's Care Good Shepherd Appeal</b> |
| Week Beg 14 <sup>th</sup> March<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Week of Lent<br>Mass in School<br>Thu 17 <sup>th</sup>                    | <b>Tidy Up Week</b><br><i>Another opportunity to be very helpful at school and at home.</i>                                       | <b>Sport Relief</b><br><b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b>  |
| Week Beg 21 <sup>st</sup> March<br><b>HOLY WEEK</b>  | <b>Hug Week</b><br>Make sure everyone we love feels loved.  | Fundraising event for <b>Darlington HCPT</b> (Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust)  |

Please talk to your child about what he/she might give up or what extra things they might do during this season.

