



JULY 2023

St. Bernard's RC Primary & Nursery School

A VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

A note from our Head of School

Here we are at the end of a most rewarding school year. As always, we have had a jam-packed year here at St Bernard's and we have so much to be grateful for. Just look at our Twitter page to see the many sporting events, school trips, residentials, PTA events and other experiences our children are fortunate to experience. We really do strive for our school to be a place where faith, values, learning and creativity come together.

We had an emotional leavers film night for Team 6. It was a delight to watch and reflect on their achievements this year and all their primary years. This reflection continued at a mass celebrated by Father Humphrey, where we gave thanks for the school year and wished our Team 6 all the very best at High School.

I would like to thank all of you for your support, patience and care for our school community-it has been felt and appreciated. I would like to also give my thanks to all the staff here at St Bernard's. We are truly blessed with a fantastic team who give so much of themselves to ensure that school is a place where we all grow, love and learn with the gospel values at the core.

Have a wonderful, safe, relaxing summer and I hope that you enjoy spending time with your families and loved ones. Let's hope that we get some sunshine!

Julie Le Feuvre





RE this term



Holy Communion

Congratulations to our T3 children who made their First Holy Communion.

CAFOD

A huge thank you to everyone who gave their change to our 'Pennies for Water' collection. We were able to buy 'Water for a Family' -this gift can provide families with a steady supply of clean, safe water for drinking and cooking. Using a water pump also means families can wash in clean water, keeping everyone safe from infection.

We also bought several 'Emergency Water' packages. When disasters strike, this essential charity gift can save lives. Following an emergency, when families lose everything, drinking water is hard to find. With this fast-acting charity gift, the family is in urgent need, and is provided with vital water, to help them stay healthy and safe.



UN CRC Article 24

I have the right to good quality health care, to clean water and good food

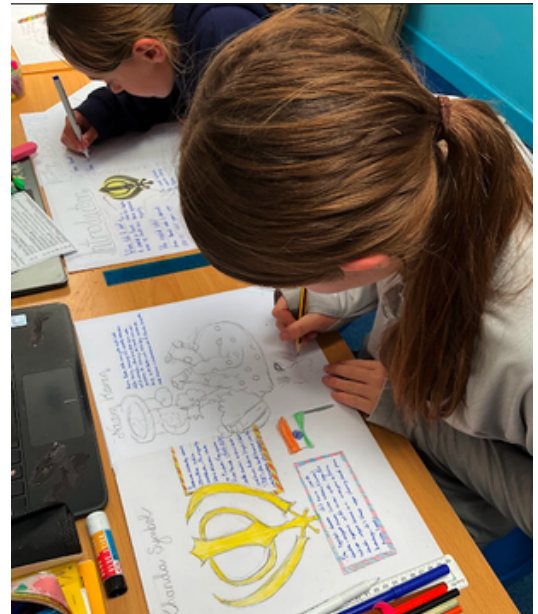




RE this term

WORLD FAITH WEEK

Each class focused on exploring two of the different world religions. They discovered how they celebrate special events throughout the year. As always, the children showed their curiosity through the questions they asked.



This term our whole school project was 'Our Common Home'. Across the school, our children have been learning all about how to care for our planet.



Conservation Workshops

Thank you to all the families who were able to join us for our workshops.

Nursery- Stay and play session focused on how we can help the environment

Team R- Creating undersea art/DT

Team 1- Plastic Bag jewellery

Team 2- Bird feeders and wildflower bombs

Team 3- Mini Greenhouses

Team 4- Planting seeds and bulbs in our playground

Team 5- Recycling - making bird feeders and plant pots out of plastic items.

Team 6- Plastic sensory pyramids



Litter Pick

Another fantastic whole school litter pick this term, cleaning up our school grounds and neighbourhood.





What's been happening at St B's

Chester Zoo Takeover

We are extremely proud of our children who attend the Chester Zoo Takeover, educating the public all about plastic pollution and encouraging them to make pledges to reduce their use of single use plastic.

We were even interviewed by Granada Reports!

Check out the interview [HERE](#)



Walk for Creation

All our children took part in a walk for creation either in the school grounds or at Stanney Woods. They took time to reflect on how we can take care of our environment and said prayers.

We have even created our own Prayers for Tomorrow as part of CAFOD's Great Big Green Week.

Listen to our beautiful prayers [HERE](#).





Outdoor Play and Learning

As we develop our outdoor play provision, the children have become experts at making dens.



Laudato Si Rap

Team 3 had a blast with beatboxer James Taylor. They used all their knowledge about conservation to create this brilliant rap.

Check out the video [HERE](#)



Woodland Trust Bronze Award

St Bernard's was proud to receive the Bronze level of the Green Tree School Award. We are already planning on how we can achieve Silver level.

Tree Dressing Workshop

We had a wonderful time dressing the trees in our woodland area. We decorated some tree trunks, created hanging decorations with ribbon hoops and some from recycled tin cans.





What's happening at St B's



AmaSing Aspire 2023

Our Pop Choir put on a stunning performance at this year's AmaSing concert. They sang their hearts out at Chester FC stadium and wowed the crowds.



Messy Play Day

Earlier this month our nursery children had their second messy play day. Loads of fun was had by all!



School Trips



Team 5 went to York for 2 nights. They had a fantastic time learning all about the Vikings and finding out how chocolate is made.



Team 3 had a blast in Llandudno with a trip up the Great Orme and an adventure down in the Bronze Mines.

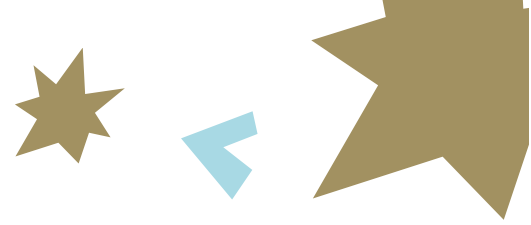


Team 4 visited Manchester for the day. They explored the Science and Industry Museum, found out about banking with a visit to DF Capital and then enjoyed Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at the Palace Theatre.



Team Reception explored the deep ocean at Blue Planet Aquarium and found out all about the creatures that live in our seas.





ATTENDANCE

This year to date our whole school attendance is 94.4%. As you know, we aim for over 96%. We have had lots of children with childhood illnesses but please remember that once they are feeling well enough we are happy to administer medicine in school (Once relevant forms have been completed).

Whilst we do understand and sympathise that with the cost of living at the moment, taking holidays during term time can be a lot cheaper, we cannot authorise requests and these will be registered as 'Unauthorised absences'. This is in line with the advice of Chester and Cheshire West LA Attendance managers. Thank you for your understanding.

If a child's attendance falls below a certain level, our attendance team will invite parents into school for an attendance panel meeting. These are not intended to blame or judge but rather an opportunity to offer support, if needed, or give you the opportunity to talk about your child's absence with a view to working together. If you receive a letter, please don't worry, just come in and have a chat with us.

Uniform

Post COVID we have noticed that more children are not adhering to our school uniform. Children can come into school on PE days dressed in their PE kit: This consists of navy shorts, plain white t-shirt and black pumps/trainers. In winter months jogging bottoms or leggings can be worn for PE lessons outside. Please note that jewellery, including earrings, should not be worn and children will be asked to remove such items. Pumps/trainers should only be worn on PE days. Thank you for supporting us with this.



We also have had an increase in unauthorised attendance. All schools have to report unauthorised absence to the Local Authority and you may be issued with an Education Penalty Notice (EPN). Thank you for your cooperation with this.

