

St Margaret's C.E.P. School

Newsletter

Inspire, Nurture, Discover

Learning as we grow, Growing as we learn, Rooted in Jesus

Tues 20th May 2025

Issue No: 9

Almost term 6!

What a whistle stop tour term 5 has been! It seems we have only just returned and here we are, with just days to go before half term. Even so, much has been achieved including

Earth Day 2025

On Tuesday 22nd April, the school turned our attention to Earth Day. Earth Day is an event that takes place annually and each year the focus changes. It is recognised around the world and is a day to help people think about our planet and how we can help look after it. The theme this year was 'Our Power, Our Planet'.

The day began with worship introducing Earth Day and why the day was established over 50 years ago. It was impressive how much the children already knew regarding climate change and how the burning of fossil fuels is harmful to our planet. We discussed the different ways that our world could be powered. The children in Discovery were able to recall some of the renewable types of energy, such as solar and wind power. We discussed FoCSS's efforts to raise a large sum of money in order to invest in solar panels for the school. Later that afternoon, each class took part in activities related to taking better care of our planet.

Russet Class—Our youngest children in Russet were able to recall some of the different ways that homes, schools and businesses could be powered. They focused on wind power, looking at photos and videos of wind turbines in action. They were amazed by just how large the turbines were! Rus-

set are a creative group so decided to demonstrate their learning by making their own version of wind turbines using mostly recyclable materials.

Pippin Class reviewed what they had learnt during worship and then focused on what they could do to help look after the environment, from saving energy to picking up rubbish. The ideas ranged from turning lights off when leaving a room, cutting down on using non-recyclable packages where possible and the most practical and popular option, was to turn the tap off when brushing their teeth. They each decorated a handprint and wrote five different changes someone could make to take better care of the environment.

Bramley Class started their afternoon by reading 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' and 'Somebody Crunched Colin'. They discussed the message of the texts and the ways Earth provides for us. They wrote 'thankyous' to the planet which expanded into a letter with sentences such as 'thank you for the tiniest creatures' and 'I am grateful for the trees as they give me oxygen'.

Discovery Class—As part of the geography curriculum, Discovery had recently studied the changing world and focused on renewable energy and sustainability. Along similar lines to Bramley, the children wrote letters to thank Earth for its gifts. This was then linked to spirituality by 'looking through the window', considering the positives and negatives about the environment and reflecting on their own actions.

Paddock Wood Lions

Congratulations to two members

from Bramley Class, who were chosen as winner and runner-up by the Paddock Wood Lions for an art competition titled, 'Road to Peace'. *"In these troubled times this is an opportunity for young people to think about the importance of world peace."* Brooke won first prize of a £25 book token and Arabella came second and received a £15 book voucher. There was further good news, as Brooke's entry was then entered to represent the South East and was chosen as runner-up, winning a £25 gift card and £50 in art supplies for the school. Well done!

Gravesend Recorder Festival

Recently, 12 pupils from Pippin, Bramley and Discovery Classes performed alongside various recorder/music groups at Gravesend Grammar School for Boys. It was a most enjoyable event and great experience of performing in public. A huge thank you to Mrs Barton-Holman for rehearsing the pupils and also to parents for supporting this event by transporting and attending the event.

Solar Panel Fundraiser

A huge thank you to members of our school community and further afield as an incredible £16190 was raised through the Aviva Community Fund. I would like to thank the members of FoCSS which drove this initiative forward.

And finally, a reminder that Monday 2nd June is a SDD and so we welcome everyone back to school for the start of term 6 on Tuesday 3rd June.