



The Friday Message

Volume 14 - Friday 15th December 2023

3rd Sunday of Advent



Reception	Year 1
In class this week we lit the second purple candle at the beginning of our daily Advent reflections and talked about the meaning of 'peace'. One of our favourite reflections of the week was Tuesday, when we participated in a Godly Play session to retell the Parable of the Lost Sheep (Matthew 18:14). We discussed that Jesus looks after us, just like the shepherd looks after his lost sheep. We are all important to God, just as the sheep are all important to the shepherd. We discussed the shepherd feeling at peace once all his sheep were reunited.	In RE this week we continued to look at the journey of the Shepherds to visit Jesus. We then looked closely at Mary, our mother and worked in groups to write some beautiful acrostic poems about Mary. We have continued to take part in our Advent reflections and have completed some lovely activities including thinking carefully about how to care for our world and creating paper chains with words of how to be a good friend. All of the children were fabulous in their nativity, well done!
Year 2	Year 3
Year 2 have continued with their Advent unit of learning. They started the week by imagining they were one of the Shepherds from the Nativity stories discussing what happened the night Jesus was born. The children then had discussions and made comparisons as to what they believed to be the most important part of the Shepherds story. The children have been thoroughly engaged with their advent reflections this week. They have had thoughtful discussions about who they are thankful for in their lives. They also made a class paper chain sharing how they could care for their friends reflecting on how God cares for us.	This week in RE we have continued to think about the birth of Jesus and focused on the visit of the shepherds. Using the scripture Luke 2:8-20 we answered a range of questions including imagining we were interviewing Mary in Bethlehem. We thought about what the shepherds might have told their neighbours and friends about the exciting news. We also thought about why God chose the shepherds to be the first to receive the 'Good News'. We ended our topic on Mary, Mother of God with role playing the visit of the Wise Men. We used the carol 'We three kings of Orient are' and put actions to this.
Year 4	Year 5
This week, Year 4's RE learning centred around knowing that Jesus called people to follow Him. The children explored the meaning of the words Disciples and Apostles and considered what it would mean for someone to begin to follow Jesus after they had been called to do so. The second lesson of the week looked at the physical journey that Jesus took to teach people. The children worked in pairs to think about what the joys and challenges of following Jesus at that time would have been.	In RE lessons this week, we have focused on the events leading up to the arrival of Jesus. The excitement and joy of the newborn king is exemplified in Matthew and Luke's Gospels, and we studied their accounts in scripture. We discussed how we have prepared ourselves for Jesus' arrival and created a leaflet guide titled: Advent Guide – how to prepare your heart for Jesus. It contains all the ways we can ready ourselves for His arrival on Christmas Day.
Year 6	<p style="text-align: center;">Monthly Gospel Value</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our Gospel Value we are exploring is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOPE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What do you HOPE for this Advent Season??</p>
In RE this week, the children have consolidated their learning and understanding of Advent and Christmas, to create group presentations that explored symbols, scriptures and messages that explain the meaning behind this time.	