



The Friday Message

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The Feast of St Peter and St Paul



Reception	Year 1
<p>We talked about Saint Peter and Saint Paul, who were friends of Jesus, and learned that people all around the world are invited to be His friend too. We reflected on how we can be good friends of Jesus—by talking to Him in prayer, showing kindness to others, and sharing His love. We asked ourselves: What do you think Jesus looks like? and How can we be more like Him? We looked at different pictures of Jesus and thought about how artists show His feelings. Inspired by this, we painted our own pictures of Jesus using watercolours, thinking carefully about His kindness and love. We also learned about Philip and the Ethiopian man, discovering how we can help others learn about Jesus just like Philip did. As part of our learning, we talked about the importance of friendship—how to be a good friend, how to look after our friends, and how Jesus wants us to love and care for one another. We wrote special messages of love for our friends and created symbols of love and friendship to show how we can stay close to Jesus and each other.</p>	<p>This week, our Year 1 children have been exploring two beautiful Bible stories that have really touched their hearts: Jesus welcoming the little children (Mark 10:13–16) and the Feeding of the 5000. These stories have sparked some truly thoughtful conversations and reflections in class. In Mark’s Gospel, we read how Jesus welcomed the children, even when others tried to turn them away. He reminded everyone that the Kingdom of God belongs to those with hearts like theirs. Our children connected with this message—they spoke about how it feels to be included, and how they can make others feel welcome too. One child said, “Jesus wants us to be kind to everyone, even if they’re not our best friend.” What a lovely reminder! We also looked at the story of the Feeding of the 5000, where Jesus took a small offering—just five loaves and two fish—and turned it into a meal for thousands. The children were amazed by this miracle, but even more so by the idea that small acts of kindness can have a big impact. They shared ideas like helping tidy up, sharing toys, or hugging someone when they’re sad. It’s been heartwarming to see how our Year 1s are learning to live out Jesus’ love in simple, everyday ways. Their reflections show a growing sense of empathy, generosity, and care for others. We’re so proud of them—and we hope their kindness continues to ripple out into the wider school community.</p>
Year 2	Year 3
<p>This week Year 2 have continued learning about Judaism. In our first session they learnt more about the Torah, the Jewish Holy book. They watched a video clip showing how it is handled and ‘dressed’ and looked closely at some photographs of some very special Torah ‘crowns’ on the Jewish Museum website. The children learnt about the work of a ‘Sofer’, someone who is trained to handwrite the Torah. They were amazed to learn that it takes a Sofer years to train and about 2 years to complete 1 handwritten Torah. In our second session the children explored more about the language of the Torah, Hebrew. They learnt how to say ‘hello’, ‘how are you?’, ‘thank you’ and ‘please’ in Hebrew. The children then pretended they were a Sofer and wrote some phrases, extremely carefully, in Hebrew. They enjoyed using google translate to find out how to write their own names in Hebrew!</p>	<p>Part of our study of different faiths, this week we began to explore Islam. First of all, we focused on where it began and we were pleasantly surprised as we found lots of connections with our faith. We then looked at the part of the world where it originated from and found tis on the map. Further on, we looked at parts of the faith including the Five pillars of Islam. Using this information, we created a fact file to help others find out about the Five pillars. We made excellent connections to our own values, and this led to some thought-filled discussions in class. On reflecting on our lessons this week, we recognised the importance of learning about different faiths and this leading to better understanding and tolerance of others.</p>
Year 4	Year 5
<p>This week in RE, Year 4 explored the Five Pillars of Islam, learning about their importance in the lives of Muslims both globally and in Britain today. Through discussion and creative activities, the children discovered how each pillar supports the Islamic faith, much like the Ten Commandments and core practices shape Christian life. Pupils compared the pillars to their own Catholic values, thinking about what ‘holds up’ their faith, and designed their own symbolic pillars to reflect this. The lesson sparked respectful conversations about different beliefs and encouraged the children to consider how understanding others can help build inclusive communities.</p>	<p>This week in RE, Year 5 have been exploring the big question Who is God? in two creative and thoughtful lessons. In the first lesson, they made colourful posters to help younger children learn about some of the different names for God in the Bible, like Yahweh (“I AM WHO I AM”), El Shaddai (“God Almighty”), and Yahweh-Raah (“The Lord is my Shepherd”). Then, in the second lesson, they wrote friendly and reflective conversations between themselves and a Jewish friend all about the Shema – an important Jewish prayer from Deuteronomy. They found out when it’s said, why Jewish people cover their eyes during it and how it links to Christian beliefs too. It was brilliant to see so much interest, care and understanding in both lessons. Well done, Year 5!</p>

Year 6

This week in RE, we explored the importance of dialogue between different faiths in working together for the common good. We learned how open and respectful conversations between religious communities can help build peace, understanding, and cooperation in our world. As part of this, we researched a variety of charities from different religious backgrounds and looked at the valuable work they do to support those in need. We then discussed how the mission and values of these charities link to *Catholic Social Teaching*, particularly focusing on principles such as dignity, solidarity, and the option for the poor. It was inspiring to see how people of all faiths work in different ways to make a positive difference and how, despite our differences, many of our core values are shared.

Monthly Gospel Value
Our Gospel Value we are exploring is

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JUSTICE

How can you seek JUSTICE for others?