



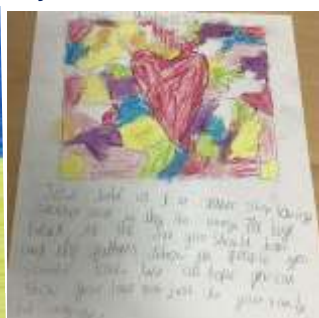
The Friday Message

Volume 39 – Friday 17th July 2026

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)



Reception	Year 1
In RE this week, we spent some time reflecting on our wonderful first year together and all the special memories we have made. We talked about how we have grown and what we are looking forward to next. We also created and decorated our own clay crosses to take home as a reminder of God's love and care throughout the holidays.	This week we focused on understanding and practising Catholic Social Teaching. In particular we focused on peace. During the first lesson we designed a house for children in Syria. In our second lesson we recapped our learning throughout branch 6. We showed our understanding by creating a poster to include these key words: Christian, Church, parish, community, sign of the cross, Jew, Jewish/Judaism and Torah.
Year 2	Year 3
This week in Year 2, we have consolidated all our Branch 6 learning. We recapped the Peterborough Light Project and how it supports homeless people in the Peterborough area. We shared our knowledge of the different faiths we have learned about and compared them to the Catholic faith. We finished our RE learning with some short multiple-choice questions, and we were blown away with the results. The children have worked hard this term, and we are very proud of them.	This week, Year 3 have been learning about places that are special to Jewish people and exploring the importance of the synagogue as a place of worship. The children identified key objects found in a synagogue and discovered why Jerusalem is such a significant city in the Jewish faith. The children also learned about several important Jewish festivals, including how they are celebrated and why they are meaningful to Jewish communities. The children enjoyed finding similarities between Jewish traditions and our own Catholic faith, helping them to understand how Christianity has its roots in Judaism.
Year 4	Year 5
In RE this week, Year 4 brought together their learning from our <i>Dialogue and Encounter</i> branch. We reflected on the theological virtues of faith, hope and love, alongside everything we have learned about St Paul, dialogue, and understanding people from different faiths and traditions. The children considered how these values can help to build peaceful communities before creating symbolic artwork to express their understanding in a personal and meaningful way.	Our focus this week has been the parable of the Sower. We heard Jesus' parable about how seed was sown in four different types of soil – stony, weedy, on the path and in good soil – and the different harvest that each produced. Children reflected on how the seed represents the word of God, which we receive but which needs nourishment and space to grow. We thought about how we could be good soil, free from distractions that choke the word of God in us, deeply rooted for when things become difficult, growing strongly and producing a harvest of good works.



Year 6

This week we have focused on reflection and discussed how we can rely on Jesus' support and guidance as we move on in our journey into secondary school. We created some prayers that can accompany us as we leave St John Henry Newman and we had collective worship together for the final time. Using this as a way to wish everyone well in their onward school life, we also gave thanks for the wonderful year we have had together in Year 6. God Bless.

Monthly Gospel Value
Our Gospel Value we are exploring is

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THANKFULNESS

What are you THANKFUL for?