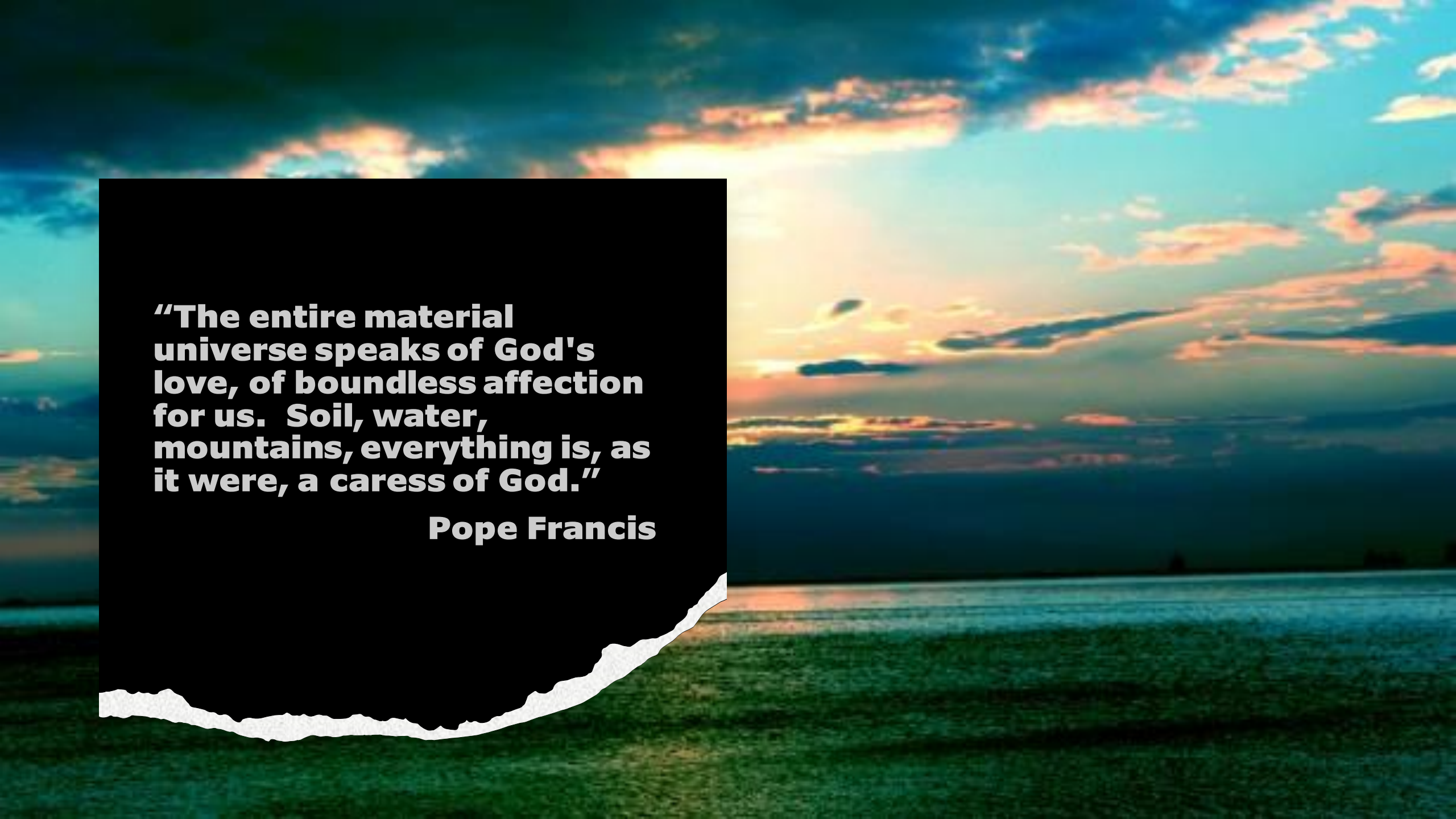
Our Lady and St Kenelm Livesimply Award Presentation

Our Learning Journey towards the Livesimply Award.


“The entire material universe speaks of God's love, of boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains, everything is, as it were, a caress of God.”
Pope Francis

LiveSimply

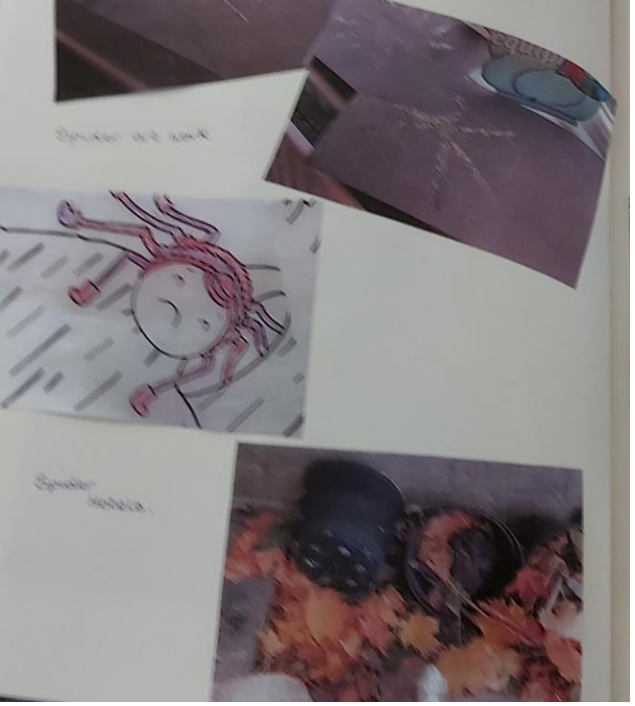
- We will hold an outdoor worship to celebrate God's creation and how we are caring for it.
- We will create new butterfly feeders , new bird boxes and bat boxes. Children will be involved in making and placing these.
- Classes will make bug hotels in Forest School.

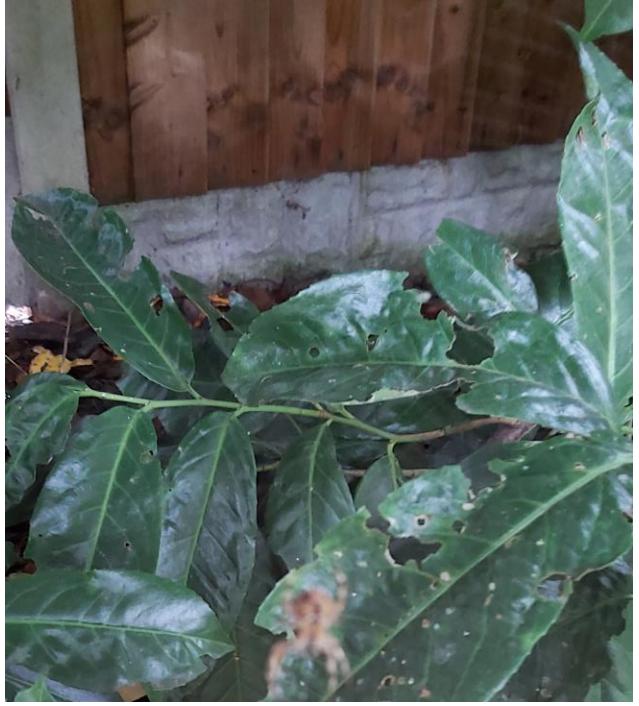
Forest School Fun

- Children have outdoor learning sessions in our Forest School area. These sessions are designed to look at nature and our environment, how can we look after it, how we can care for it and how we can improve it. Our new classroom enables us to be outside in all weather. We can sit in quiet contemplation and listen to the sounds of nature.
- We use the area across our curriculum for our CST, learning and having fun!

Our new Outdoor classroom.

- Our new classroom has drop down sides for easy viewing. It has double doors to open out the classroom.
- It can be used in all weather. We enjoy sitting and listening to the sounds of nature.
- We love to hold opportunities for Class Worship outside.







Year 2 Spiders

- We learned all about the spiders that live in our Forest School area.
- We listened to an oral traditional story "How mama spider brought light to the world".
- We made spider hotels for spiders to hibernate over the winter.

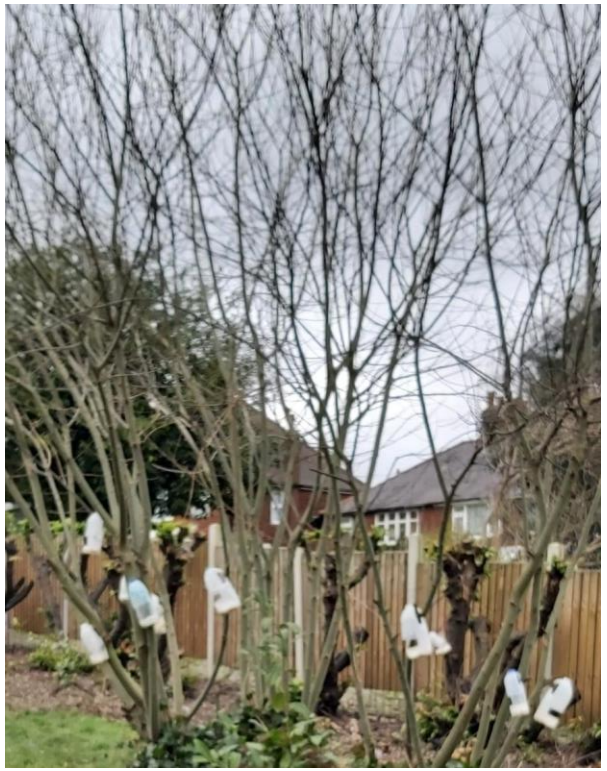
Making Bird Feeders and Bird food Garlands from Re-cycled Materials.

- We used plastic milk cartons and re-cycled them into bird feeders. We filled them with seeds hoping to attract more birds to our Forest School area ready for the Big Schools Birdwatch. We made garlands from dried fruit and popcorn to hang in the trees too.

















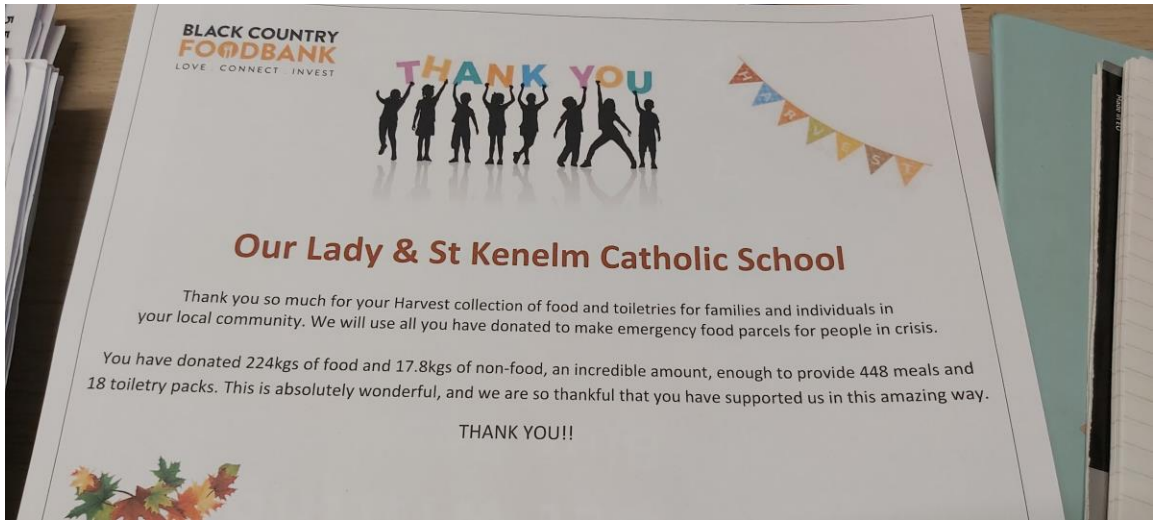
Looking After our Environment in all weather

- Winter time in Forest School. We made Jack Frost pictures by hanging watercolours outside and waiting for the frost to touch them with glitter!
- We made snowmen in the snow.

LiveSustainably

- To look at what we can do to help the Food Crisis situation.
- We will support our local food bank. Our collections for Harvest Assembly will be for the food bank. We will arrange visits to the food bank if possible and someone from the bank to visit us.
- We will mark Earth Day on 22nd April.
- The Eco-Council will lead on reducing food waste in school.





Harvest Celebration Assembly

- On 7th October we held our Harvest Celebration Assembly and invited family and friends to watch our performances. All the food and toiletries donated went to the Black Country Food bank.

- The children placed donations in the welcome area of school and the Minni Vinnie Presidents helped the Food Bank Volunteers load their van.





Minni Vinnies Fundraising.

- Our Minni Vinnies were nominated for an award from the Lord Lieutenant.
- A representative came to school to present the certificate.

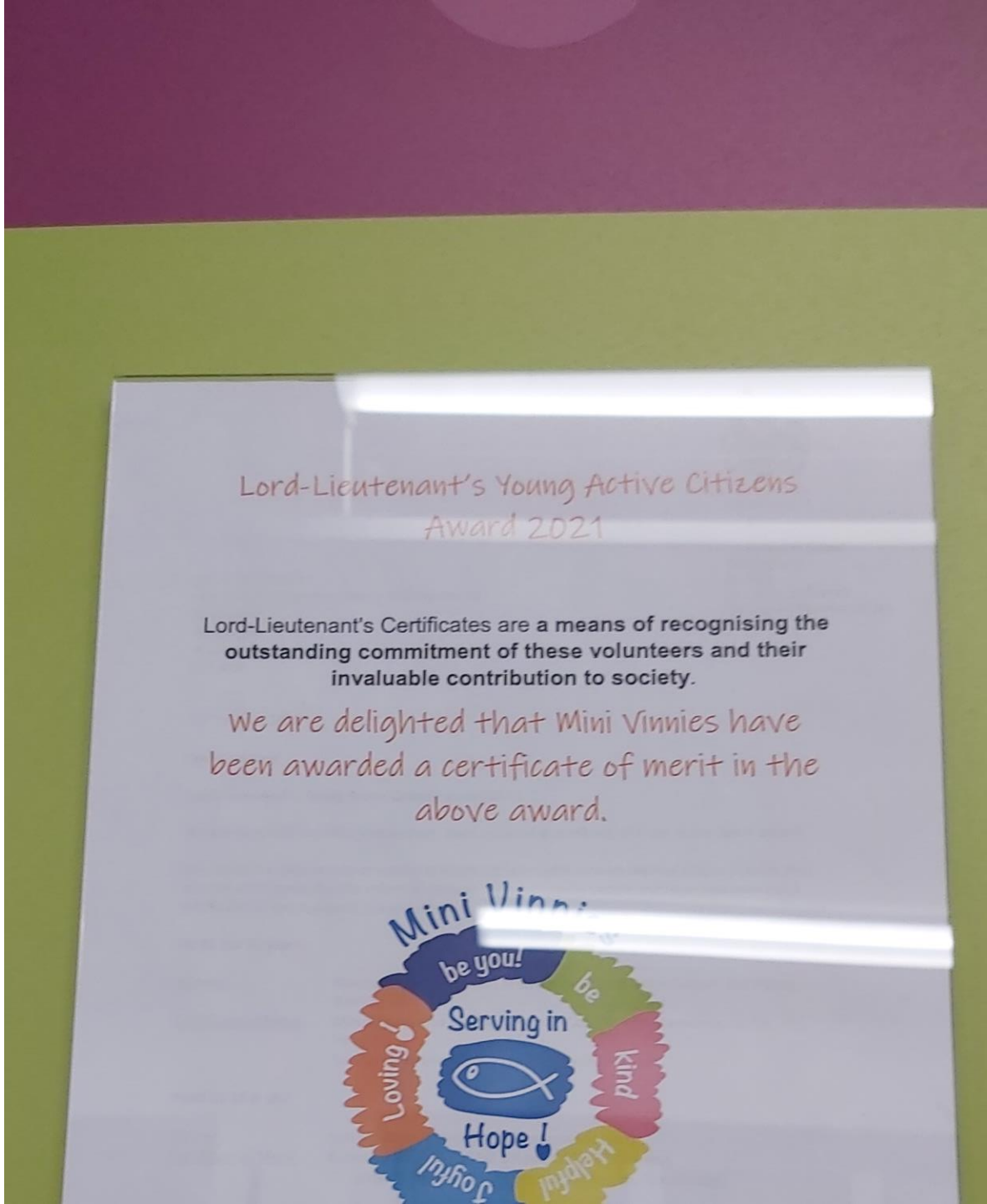


Prayer for the COP26 climate summit

Loving God,
We praise your name with all you have created.
You are present in the whole universe,
and in the smallest of creatures.
We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us
as stewards of your creation.
May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 as they
seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society.
Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions
for the poorest and most vulnerable,
and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home.
We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son.
Amen

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant
of
The County of The West Midlands
hereby awards to
Mini Vinnies
Our Lady & St Kenelm Catholic Primary School
A Certificate of Merit in
The Young Active Citizen Award
2021

John Crabtree OBE



Lord-Lieutenant's Young Active Citizens Award 2021

Lord-Lieutenant's Certificates are a means of recognising the outstanding commitment of these volunteers and their invaluable contribution to society.

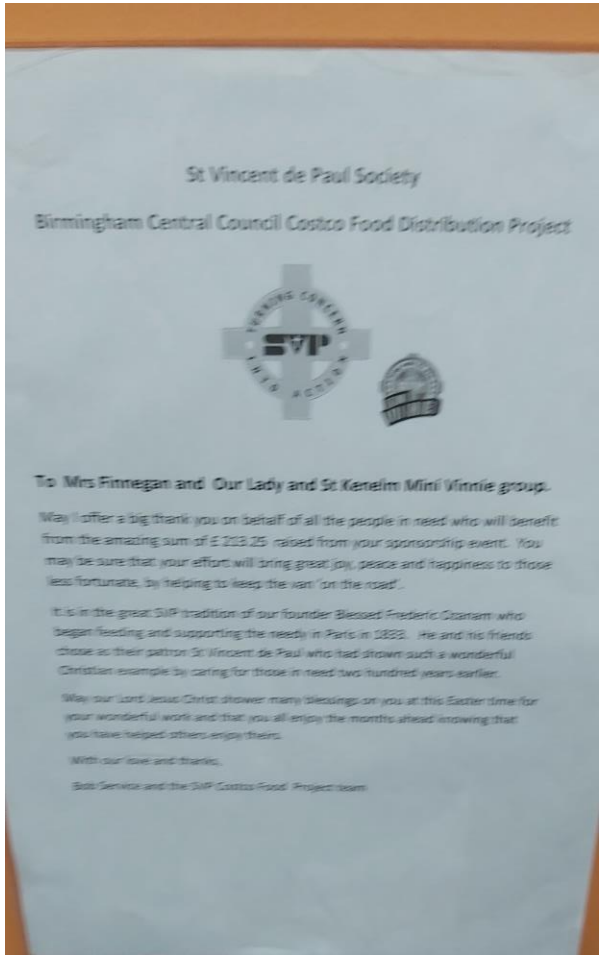
We are delighted that Mini Vinnies have been awarded a certificate of merit in the above award.

Mini Vinn

be you!
be kind
Helpful
Joyful
Loving
Serving in
Hope!

Minni Vinnies Fundraising

- Children fundraised for packs for the homeless. These packs are provided to the homeless and include personal hygiene items and warm clothing.


St Vincent de Paul Society

Birmingham Central Council Costco Food Distribution Project

SVP

To Mrs Finnegan and Our Lady and St Kenelm Mini Vinnie group.

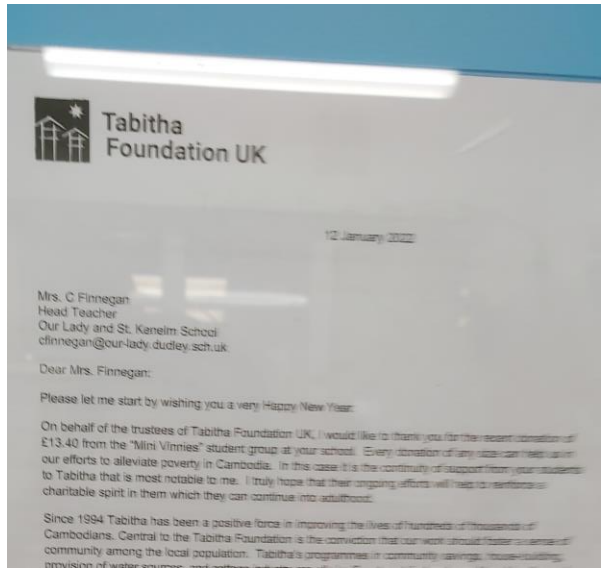
May I offer a big thank you on behalf of all the people in need who will benefit from the amazing sum of £ 213.25 raised from your sponsorship event. You may be sure that your effort will bring great joy, peace and happiness to those less fortunate, by helping to keep the van "on the road".

It is in the great SVP tradition of our founder Blessed Frederic Ozanam who began feeding and supporting the needy in Paris in 1833. He and his friends chose as their patron St Vincent de Paul who had shown such a wonderful Christian example by caring for those in need two hundred years earlier.

May our Lord Jesus Christ shower many blessings on you at this Easter time for your wonderful work and that you all enjoy the months ahead knowing that you have helped others enjoy theirs.

With our love and thanks,

Bob Service and the SVP Costco Food Project team


Tabitha Foundation UK

12 January 2022

Mrs. C Finnegan
Head Teacher
Our Lady and St. Kenelm School
cfinnegan@our-lady.dudley.sch.uk

Dear Mrs. Finnegan:

Please let me start by wishing you a very Happy New Year.

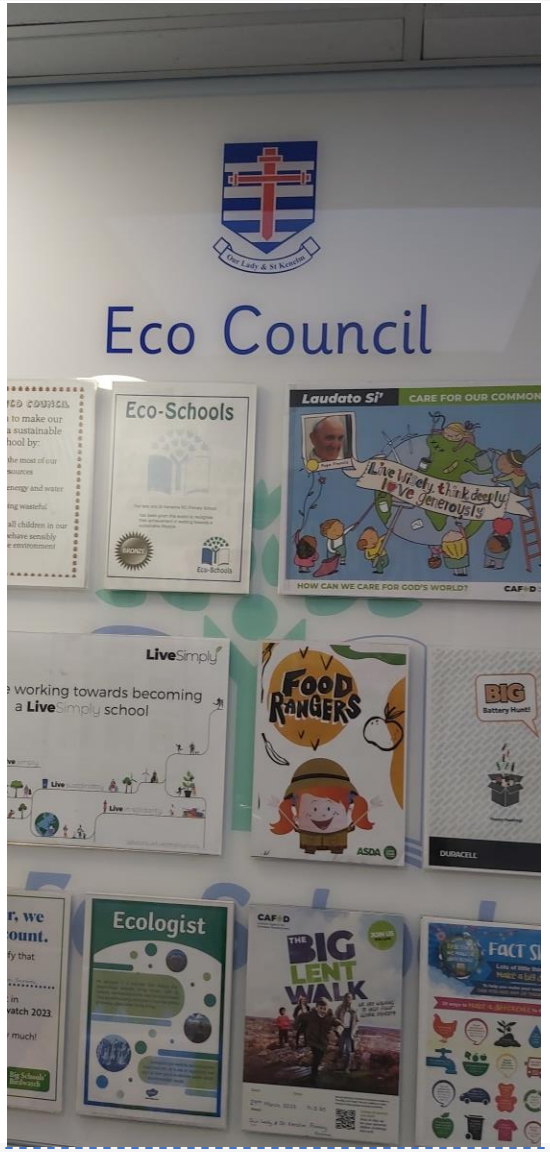
On behalf of the trustees of Tabitha Foundation UK, I would like to thank you for the recent donation of £13.40 from the "Mini Vinnies" student group at your school. Every donation of any size can help us in our efforts to alleviate poverty in Cambodia. In this case it is the continuity of support from your students to Tabitha that is most notable to me. I truly hope that their ongoing efforts will help to reinforce a charitable spirit in them which they can continue into adulthood.

Since 1994 Tabitha has been a positive force in improving the lives of hundreds of thousands of Cambodians. Central to the Tabitha Foundation is the conviction that our work should foster a sense of community among the local population. Tabitha's programmes in community savings, house-building, provision of water sources, and primary care are all

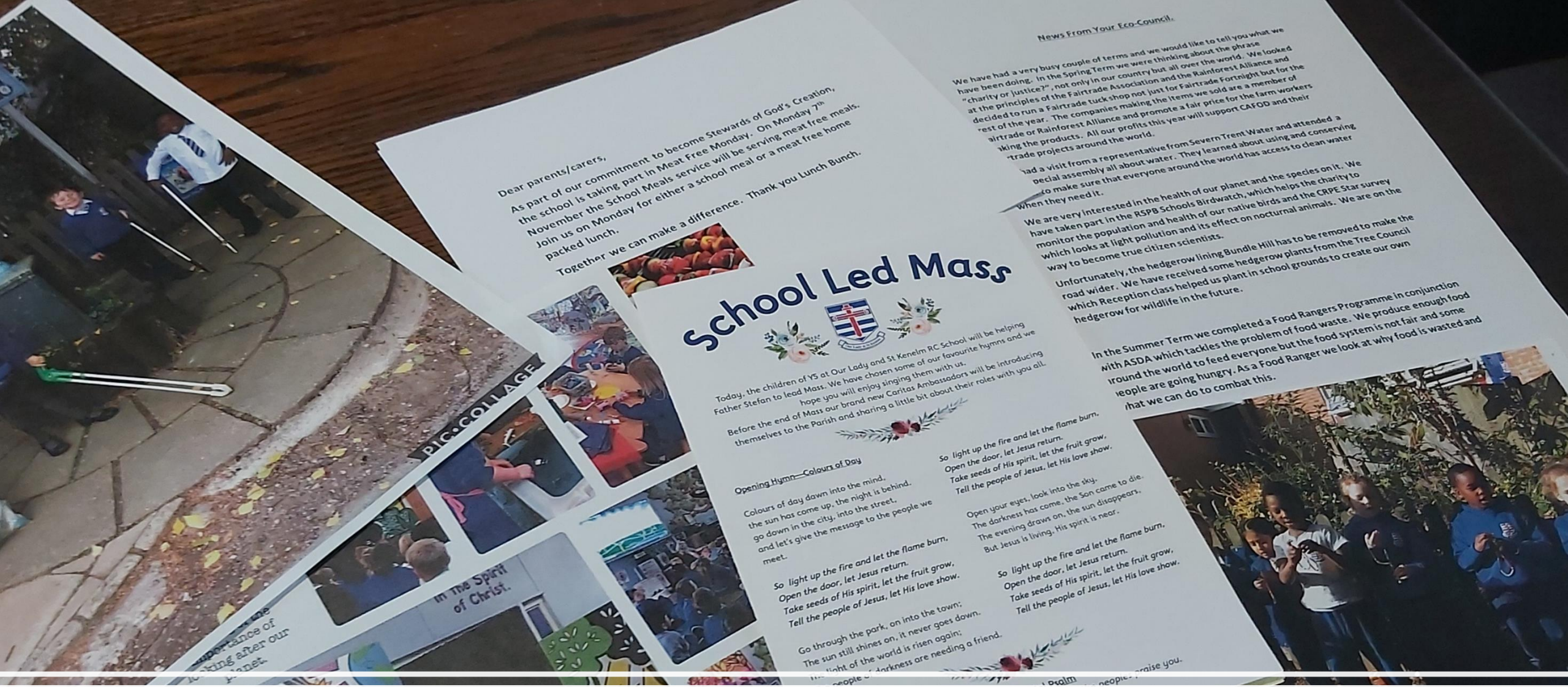
Letters and Cards to our Elderly Community and Parish.

- The children wrote letters to our elderly members of the community and the Minni Vinnies organized card making at Easter for the Parish.

Our school notice board. We regularly update the board with projects and awards we have received.







Our Eco-council regularly send out updates by newsletter and on our website about activities we have all been involved in.

ASDA Food Rangers

- The Eco-council took part in the Food Rangers programme run by ASDA. This programme of five tasks looks at food waste. The children learn how to identify "use by" and "best before" dates, the use of leftovers and how to freeze food successfully.
- The children have worked with our Catering staff and have carried out a food waste survey and looked at ideas for parents who are interested in reducing their waste food.



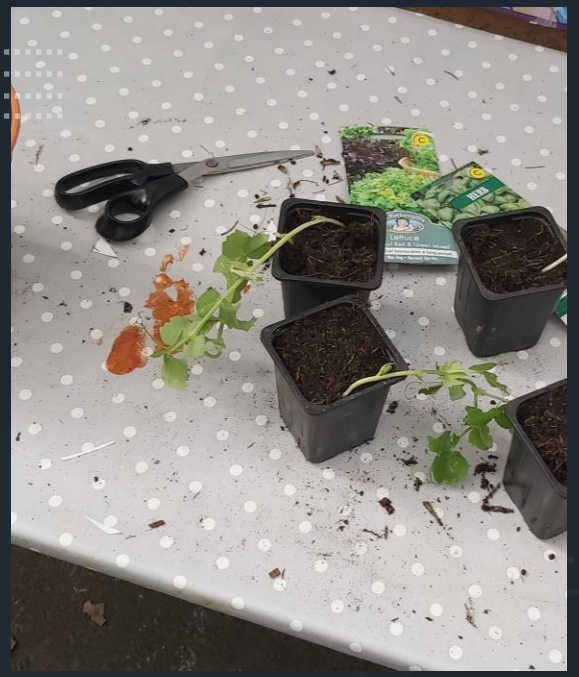


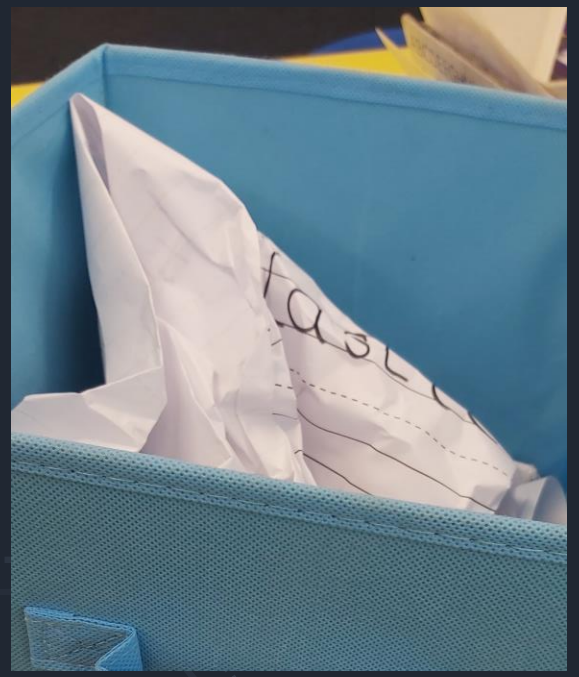
Our Lunch Bunch.

- The children work in the dining room at lunch-time, they help the younger children with their meals and monitor how much food is thrown away.
- The children work by their motto "Take what you need and eat what you take".













Some of our projects to mark Earth Day.

- We have special blue bins in each classroom for paper and card to recycle. Some classes have planted seeds to grow our own food, we have peas , lettuce, basil and potatoes.
- We take part in collecting old batteries so that we can recycle them too. We designed our own homes for mini-beasts.
- Our Pre-school made items of transport from recycled materials. They made cars, buses and even rockets!



Our

Eco-Council

PIC•COLLAGE



Our EYFS and KS1 Eco-Warriors



Our KS2 Eco-Warriors

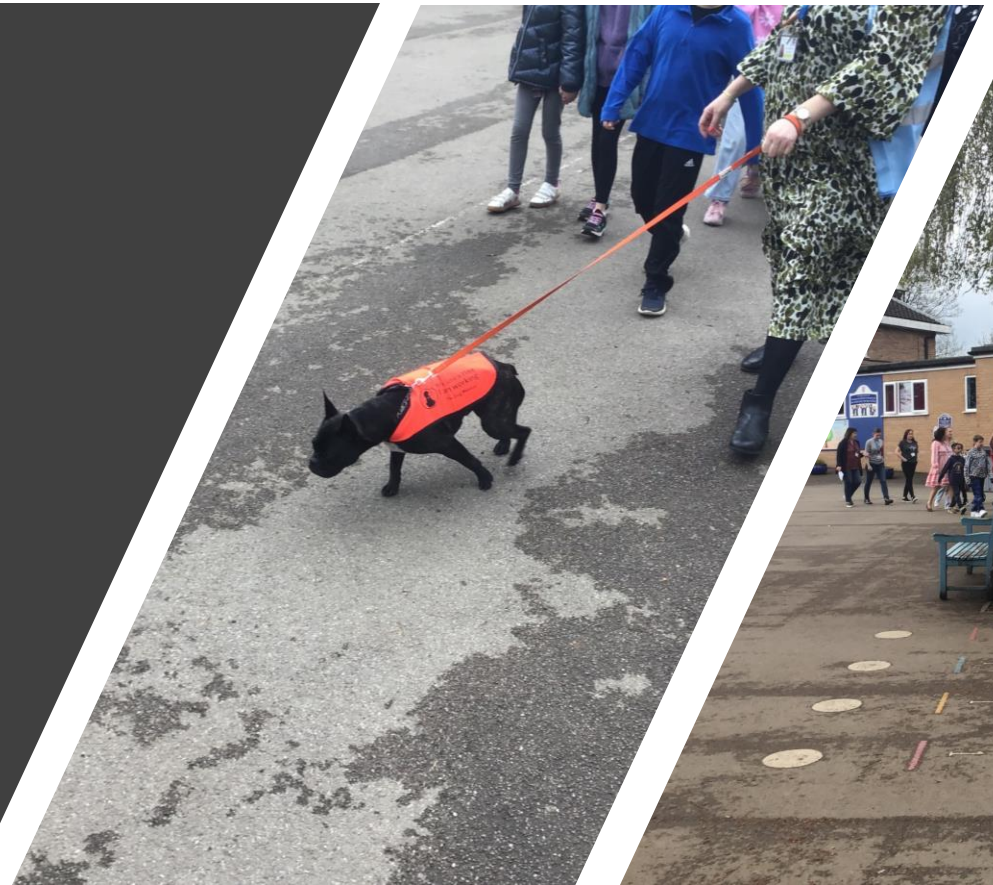




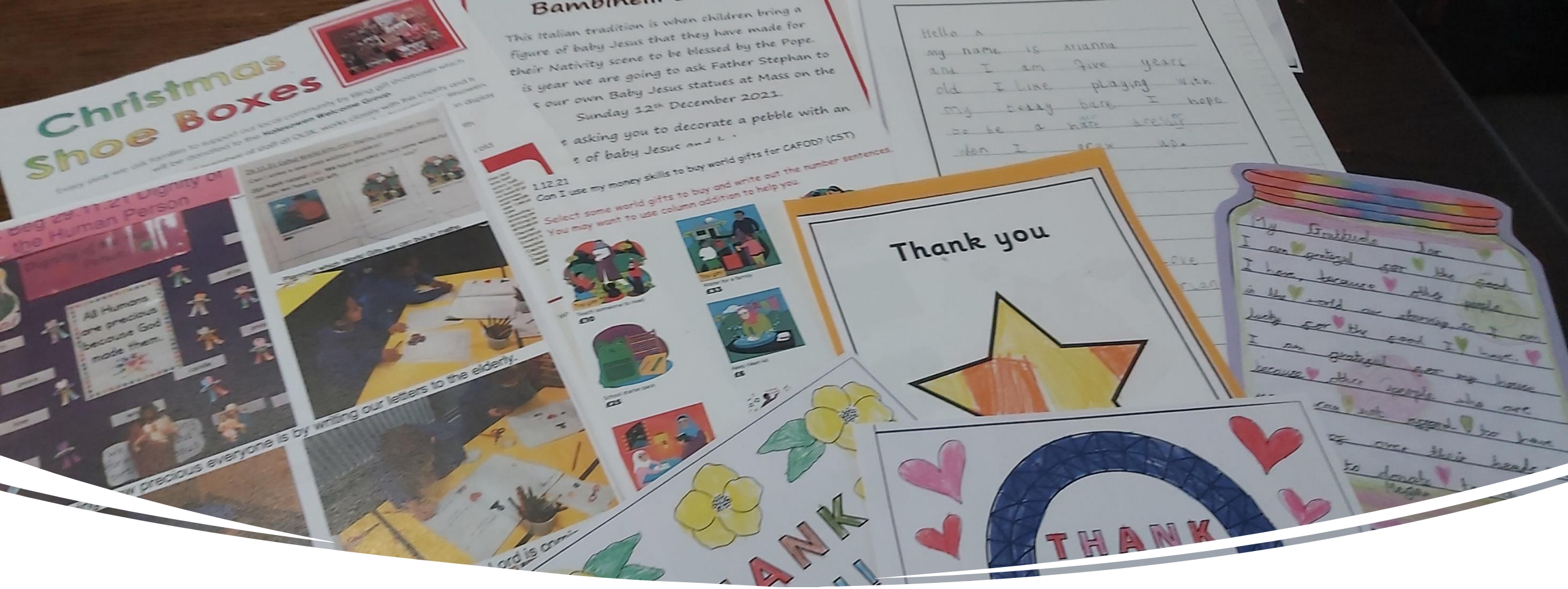




- The Big Lent Walk.
- Each child and adult walked 1km around the playground and was sponsored £1 towards our goal of raising £200.





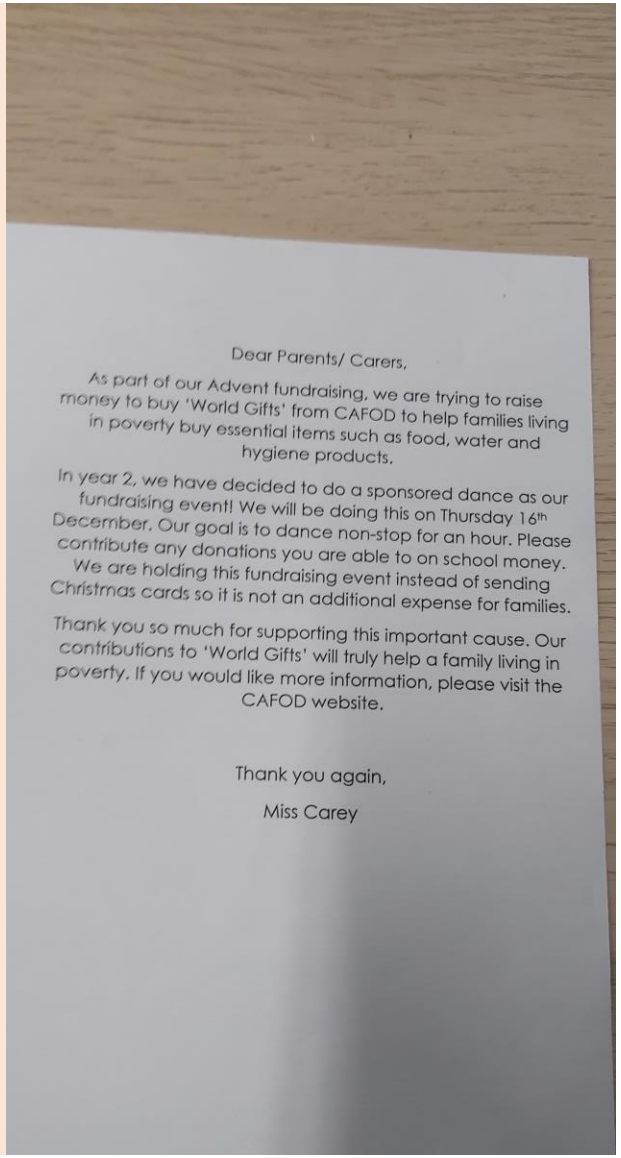


We have written letters to a local care home also cards to our local hospice.



World Gifts.

- Instead of sending cards to each other at Christmas we used the money we saved to buy gifts for people through the World Gift fundraising We worked in our Maths lessons looking at what we could buy using our money and we also raised extra by holding class fundraising events.



Dear Parents/ Carers,

As part of our Advent fundraising, we are trying to raise money to buy 'World Gifts' from CAFOD to help families living in poverty buy essential items such as food, water and hygiene products.

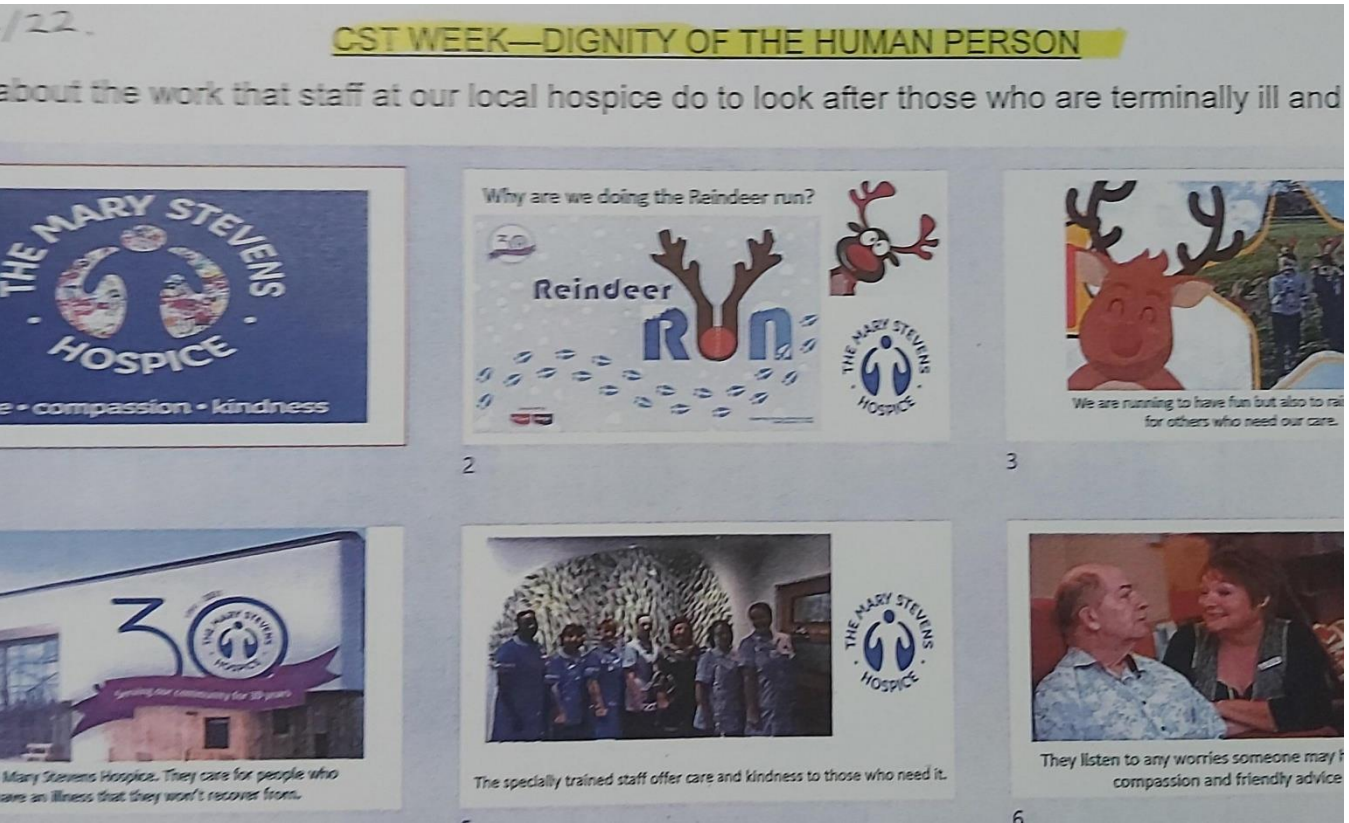
In year 2, we have decided to do a sponsored dance as our fundraising event! We will be doing this on Thursday 16th December. Our goal is to dance non-stop for an hour. Please contribute any donations you are able to on school money. We are holding this fundraising event instead of sending Christmas cards so it is not an additional expense for families.

Thank you so much for supporting this important cause. Our contributions to 'World Gifts' will truly help a family living in poverty. If you would like more information, please visit the CAFOD website.

Thank you again,

Miss Carey

Our work and fundraising for our local hospice.



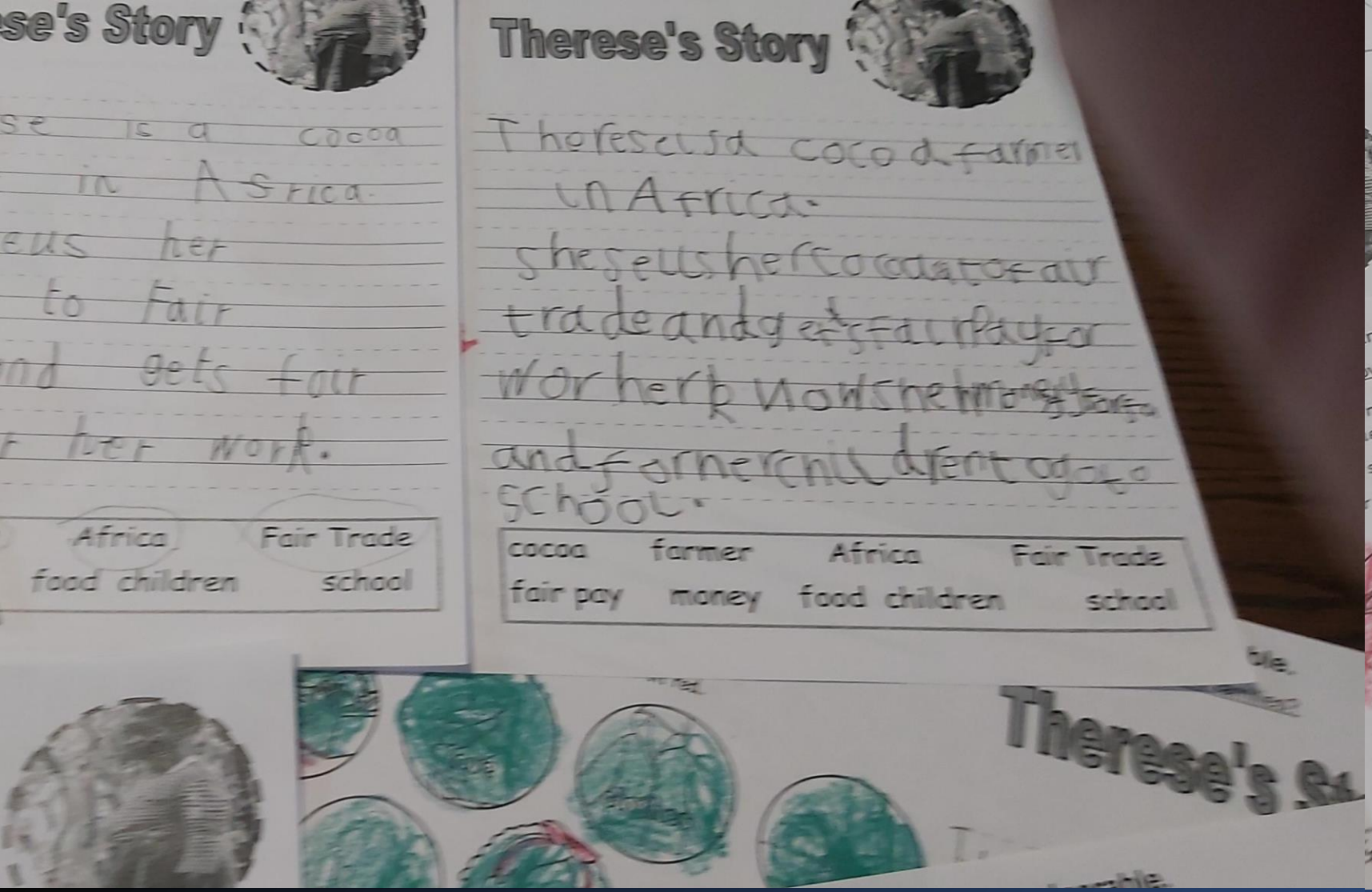


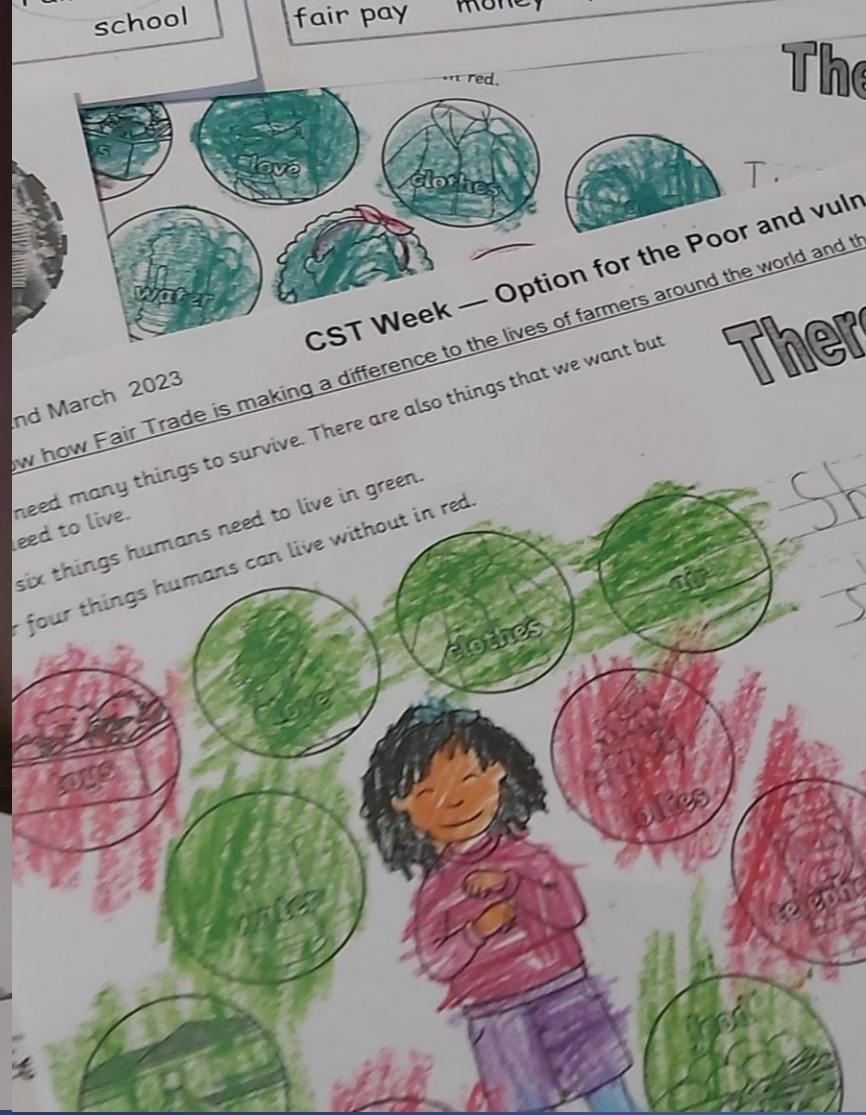


Live in Solidarity

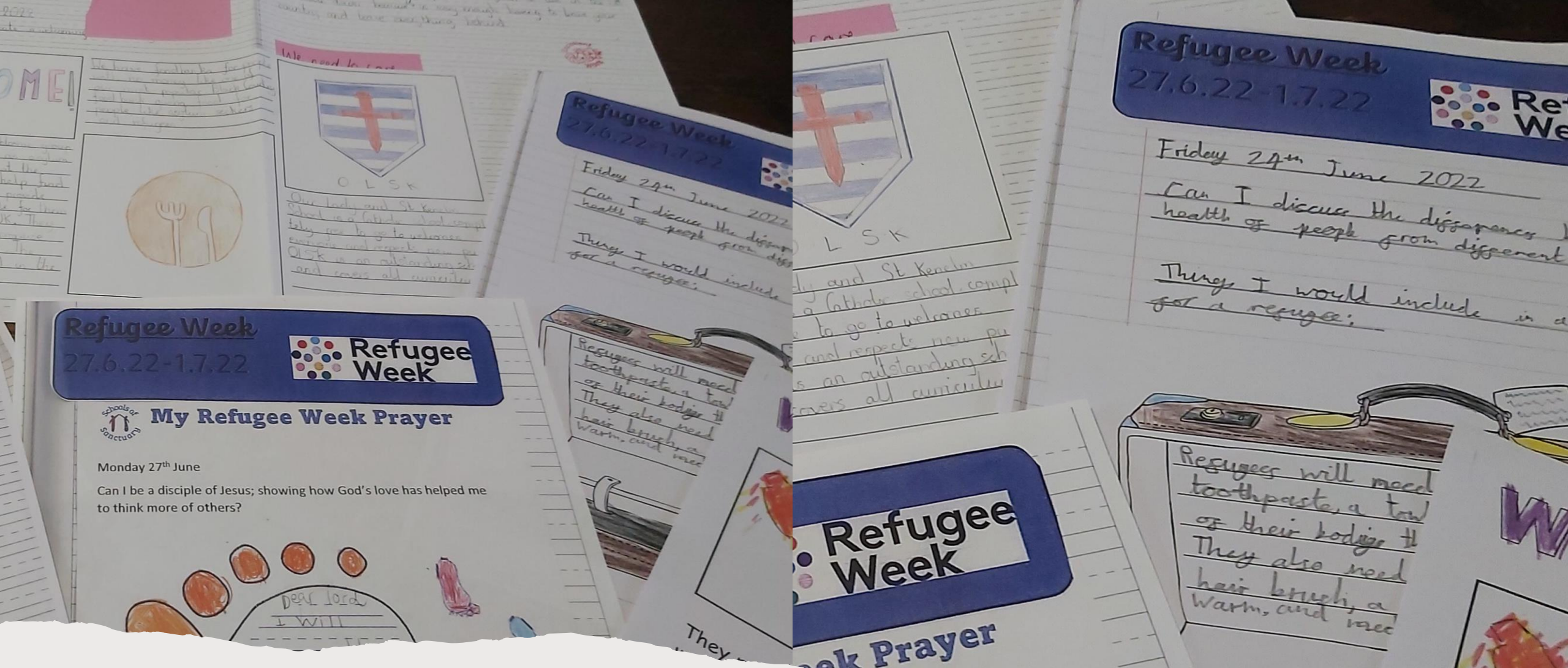
- We will turn our concern into action and make a difference to our global family by running activities throughout the year and taking part in National Refugee Week.

- We will take part in Fairtrade Fortnight each year and set up a Fairtrade tuck shop.





Understanding the Fairtrade System.



During the summer term we took part in the National Refugee Week ending with an Art Exhibition.

Welcome to our reflection for Refugee week, as a part of their exploration of life for refugees the children have been exploring the creative arts.

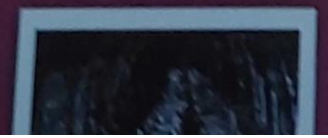
Please join us on our prayer walk of reflection. Listen to the beautiful singing of the choir and the prayers as well as the art which every child in school has taken part.

We begin on our journey led by the footprints created by the preschool, the dark foot prints represent the difficulties faced by refugees.



On your right the Year 1 children studied the work of Picasso looking in particular at his portrait of the weeping woman. They used this to reflect on the suffering of people who have to flee their home and the children created their own disjointed portraits. They have used oil pastels and collage.

To your right the year 5 children have been looking at the shelter drawings by Henry Moore from World War II when people fled





As we continue to walk along the path the preschool footprints become blue as you look to your right you see the waves painted by the reception children representing the choppy sea as desperate people risk their lives in boats in hope of a better future. The children looked at the print of The Great Wave by Japanese ukiyo-e artist Hokusai as their inspiration.

Look up to see the words of welcome created by year 1 they have explored the tranquil gardens in Monet's paintings, thinking about how refugees need tranquility and places of sanctuary. They have emulated the pointillist technique using finger painting.





To your right share in the prayers of Year 4, the work is inspired by the sound pictures by Kandinsky. The children have created self portraits to share their thoughts. The preschool rainbow footprints lead us through the new hope with the Year 2 children's Unity painting, helping us to focus on how we can stand together to support refugees, they have worked together to create one piece.

Year 3 have created a piece titled 'Unity'. Year 3






SANCTUARY
you are all very welcome
Our Lady and St Kenelm
Are building the Kingdom through Catholic Social Teaching
Family and Community
Creation
Vulnerable
of Workers
in the Spirit of Christ.










UNITY





Thank you for watching our presentation.