

Year 3's Autumn Newsletter



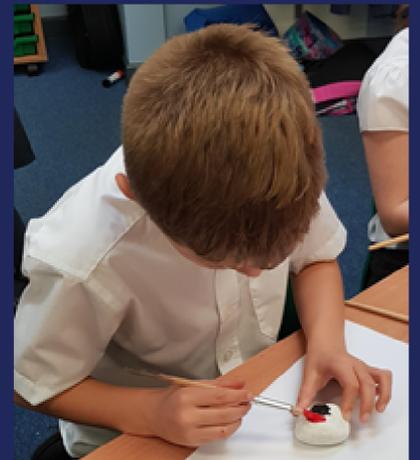
Our First Reconciliation

On Monday 9th December, many of us received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation, in a beautiful and reverent service at Sacred Heart Church. To prepare for this special sacrament, we have done lots of work in our RE lessons about making good choices and we read some Bible stories which teach about forgiveness and reconciliation. Father Tony came to visit us at school to explain all about the sacrament and we asked him lots of questions. We also had a special retreat day at church, where we took part in a number of art, drama and dance workshops. We would like to thank Father Tony, Father Bob and Father Sebastian for making the service so special and helping us to feel so comfortable as we received this sacrament.



Also in RE, we have been busy thinking about the different groups we belong to, and how through the sacrament of Baptism, we belong to God's family. We celebrated the canonisation of St John Henry Newman and reflected on the many ways he helped people in need. We thought about how we could follow in his footsteps and decided to make soup, which our teachers delivered to the homeless shelter in Coventry.

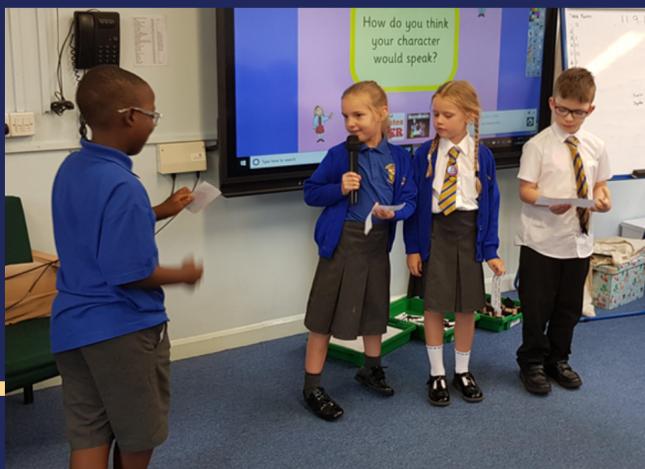
During Advent, we had a special retreat day with Dan Callow called 'Waiting with Mary' where we learnt lots of new songs. We also joined a live prayer session with Archbishop Bernard Longley where we prayed the rosary. We even made our own rosary beads to help us.



English



We have been so busy in English this term! At the start of the year, we absolutely loved reading 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl. It was such an exciting story and we had great fun exploring the characters through drama and art. We learnt about the features of news reports and scripts and we created scripts for our very own news broadcasts based on our favourite Golden Ticket winners! We then rehearsed and performed our broadcasts in groups. We also had a wonderful time inventing and making our own chocolate bars for Wonka's Factory! We learnt how to write effective instructions for our recipes and also created persuasive adverts to sell our chocolate bars! We have also enjoyed reading 'The Egyptian Cinderella' which linked to our topic on the Ancient Egyptians. We loved learning how to be active readers and now have lots of strategies to help us become more confident readers. We also developed our writing skills by learning a wide range of subordinating and coordinating conjunctions, using fronted adverbials, how to write effective character and setting descriptions and how to use speech accurately. We have written our own narratives based on this story.



Theme



Ancient Egypt



We have been so captivated by our topic this term! There has been so much to learn and we have loved every lesson. We made models of the River Nile to help us learn about its features and its importance to the Ancient Egyptians. We loved learning all about the process of mummification and we even mummified tomatoes! In art lessons, we drew hieroglyphics and created pendants out of clay and portraits of ourselves as pharaohs! In Design and Technology, we learnt about levers and built our own shadufs, which were tools used by farmers to get water from the River Nile to their farms. We also had a really exciting visit from 'History off the Page' where we got to dress up in traditional costumes and take part in lots of inspiring workshops to learn about daily life in the Ancient Egyptian times.



Coventry Week

In our Coventry Week, we used maps to locate landmarks and to calculate the distance from school to different places in Coventry. We also visited the Herbert Art Gallery for an exciting exhibition about the history of Coventry. We found out what an amazing city we live in and what a rich and exciting history it has!



Maths

We have been very busy in Maths this term! We have consolidated our understanding of place value in three digit numbers and have learnt how to use column method to add and subtract numbers. We have also been working extremely hard to learn our times tables and their corresponding division facts! Our teachers are so impressed with our progress in this as we are getting so much more confident!



Science

We have really loved our science lessons this term. We started off learning about different forces and we did so many practical investigations which were mostly linked to our book 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. We made our own elevators and our own sparkly play dough! Our second topic was rocks. It was so interesting learning about the different types of rocks and how they are formed.



PE

Year 3 have had a busy term in PE and we have developed our skills in many areas. We were especially excited to have swimming lessons in the pool on the playground during September and October. We all became much stronger swimmers and developed our confidence in the water. Throughout the term, we have also taken part in Athletics lessons, Endball lessons, ballet and trampolining!

