



The first reading at Mass this weekend was the story of David showing great mercy to a jealous King Saul. The children considered what it meant to be merciful. David showed great forgiveness in this story just like we should. This is an important value to exhibit especially when our world is challenged by conflict and tension. Our children are the future and what we teach them now will ensure our world is a safe in their hands.- **Mrs A M Kendal, Head of School**

"A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just." **Pope Francis**

**Pupil of the Week:** Pupils who gained a certificate this week are:

Reception – Isaac

Year 1 – Alfie

Year 2 – Edward and the whole of Year 2

Year 3 – Gabriela

Year 4 – Eros

Year 5 – John John

Year 6 – Chloe



**House Points:** Well done to **St Francis** this week's winners with **200** points!

St Bernadette – 144

St Francis – 200

St Paul – 178

St Theresa – 141

St Thomas More – 182

St Anne Line – 187

**Traffic:** We were pleased to welcome counsellor Michael Hardware on the last Friday of term to observe some of our many concerns about the traffic outside our school. He agrees that the speed of the cars on our road is far too fast and has requested Essex Highways to do a survey of our road. We look forward to hearing the outcome of this.

**Mini-Vinnies:** I am pleased to share with you the Mini-Vinnies team from last year who have appeared in the national Mini-Vinnie newsletter. Follow this [link](#) and see the social action they took on behalf of all members in our community. A great inspiration to others.

**Year 2 Class Assembly:** Today we were treated to wonderful assembly on the theme of the Great Fire of London. Year 2 sang us a beautiful song and were able to tell the story through the eyes of Samuel Pepys. Fabulous learning year 2!

**Year 1 and 4 Library Visits:** Year 1 and 4 had the opportunity to visit the library this week.

What a great time they had. Many of our children have tickets for our local library and were able to borrow more exciting stories. I am sure they were able to get some ideas for book characters that they may dress up in for next week's World Books Day.

**Prayer Service:** Nursery had their first prayer service this week with Fr Bernard. That sat and sang beautifully and said prayer together- thank you Nursery

**Medical Appointments:** We understand that from time to time children need to attend medical appointments. Please ensure that any appointments have been pre-advised to the school office with appointment confirmation provided. All appointments without confirmation will be marked as unauthorised.

**Healthy Me "It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver" Mahatma Gandhi** - Our new PSHE Jigsaw topic was launched this week with a quick quiz on the things we should have more or less of. During this half term the children will explore what makes and keeps them healthy both in mind and body. I am sure they will share this learning with you at home and perhaps you can as family use the incentive to improve your family health.

**Happiness is.....** Our Caritas Curriculum has a theme each term and this term the children have considered what makes them happy. Here in the hall the children have shared that theme through poetry. See the beautiful display at the top of the newsletter.

**World Book Day:** Next week the children are invited to dress up as a book character on Thursday 3rd March for World Book Day. However please don't feel the need to purchase a new outfit, many characters outfits can be put together from things at home.

**School Photo's:** A reminder that individual, sibling, and class photos will be taking place on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February**.

**COVID-19:** On Monday 21 February, the Prime Minister set out the next phase of the government's COVID-19 response '[Living with COVID-19](#)'. COVID-19 continues to be a virus that we learn to live with and the imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education remains. Please find attached new flow chart in relation to the recent government changes.

**Vaccination of 5-11 year olds** - The JCVI have announced that all children aged 5-11 years old will be eligible for two low doses of the vaccine 12 weeks apart. Roll out may be during April and parents are asked not to contact the NHS until further details have been announced. More information [here](#).

**Dinner Menu:** There are some changes to our menu next week

**Tuesday:** Pancakes for Dessert

**Wednesday:** Cheese, Potato and Onion Whirl or Jacket Potatoes

**Thursday:** Roast Beef

Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on our website.

**Upcoming Dates:**

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February:** [No after school clubs](#)

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February:** School Photos

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March:** Ash Wednesday Mass

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:** World Book Day

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 6 Mass

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 4 class Trip

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 1 class workshop

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 3 class trip

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March:** Red Nose Day (non-uniform)

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 1 class assembly 9.05. Parents welcome

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March:** Year 3 & 4 Easter Play 2.15pm

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April:** 1pm Finish for Easter Holidays

