



Patience and Hope were the themes we shared in this week's parable of the Fig Tree that would not grow. The gardener never gave up on the tree. He asked the master to give him one more year to help it bear some fruit. The children were excellent at identifying God in this parable and his unstinting commitment to us, even when we make mistakes. - **Mrs A M Kendal, Head of School**

"It is always possible to begin anew, because there is a new life that God can awaken in us in spite of all our failures." **Pope Francis**

Pupil of the Week:

Pupils who gained a certificate this week are:

Reception – Ella

Year 1 – Whole of Year 1

Year 2 – Dawson and all of Year 2

Year 3 – Liam Year 4 – Demi

Year 5 – Charlie A Year 6 – Lemar

House Points: Well done to **St Thomas More** this week's winners with **223** points!
St Bernadette – 200
St Francis – 187
St Paul – 182
St Theresa – 207
St Thomas More – 223
St Anne Line – 221

Mini-Vinnies: On Monday Mini-Vinnies took a trip to our local charity shop St Elizabeth's. There they were welcomed by Kat Pulford the Head of Fundraising for the charity, Pauline their catholic ethos advocate and Amy the manager. The children listened closely to all the information they had to share and asked some excellent questions. As well as having time for a quick browse! Mini-Vinnies are keen to support and contact this local charity- so watch this space their may be challenges to follow.

Reconciliation Service: This week the children in Key stage 2 took part in a service led by Mini-Vinnies and Chaplaincy Team. During this time of reflection, the children re-told the story of a refugee who had found it so hard starting in a new home when they had fled their home country. It reminded us to treat all those we meet in life with the same respect and caring. The children have then written beautiful prayers

on forget-me-not flowers to always think of others before ourselves. Those children who have received the sacrament then went to see Fr Bernard afterwards.

Stations of the Cross: We had our last and final week of Stations of the Cross this week. Year One produced some beautiful freeze frames to help us understand the events of Jesus last day on this earth.

Year 1 Assembly Today parents joined us for year one's fabulous class assembly. The children shared their learning about fairy tales and growth and some excellent knowledge about our Queen, who celebrates her Platinum Jubilee this year. Thank you to Miss Purssord, Mrs Weston, Miss Turner and Mrs Farrow for preparing the children so well. What a wonderful way to start our day!



CAFOD "Walk Against Hunger":

Thank you to everyone who has already donated to our Lenten appeal. We are walking for

hunger, so get those walking feet out and set your self a goal to achieve. Children have been sent sponsor forms - the donation page is here. [St Luke's Catholic Academy - Walk Against Hunger CAFOD](https://www.st-lukesrc.essex.sch.uk/walk-against-hunger)

Class Photo's: Class photo's will be released for sale after the Easter holidays.

Clubs: All staff run clubs have now finished for the Spring Term. Details on the new staff led clubs for the Summer Term and sign-up information will be sent out when we return after the Easter break. Please remember to check your communications received.

BCCS: Brentwood Catholic Children's Society has several charity Gold Bond places for the TCS London Marathon taking place in London on Sunday 2nd October 2022. More information and how to apply for a place

can be found on their [website](https://www.st-lukesrc.essex.sch.uk). The deadline for applications is 5pm on Friday 8th April.

The Assumption of Our Lady church: Based on previous success they are offering special Stations of the Cross for 'Children' on Good Friday at 10am.

COVID-19: On Monday 21st February, the Prime Minister set out the next phase of the government's COVID-19 response '[Living with COVID-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-sets-out-next-phase-of-covid-19-response)'. 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.

Dinner Menu: Our school dinner menu can be located [here](https://www.st-lukesrc.essex.sch.uk) on our website. W/C 28th March will be Week 1. Next Wednesday we will be having a special Easter Lunch. See the Attached Poster.

Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday 29th March: Reception Class 'Ugly Bug Ball' at 2.30. Parents Welcome

Wednesday 30th March 2-3pm: Nursery Easter Craft Afternoon. Parents Welcome

Thursday 31st March: Year 3 & 4 Easter Play 2.15pm. Parents Welcome

Friday 1st April: 1pm Finish for Easter Holidays

Wednesday 20th April: Children return to school

Holy Cross, First Communion key dates:

Saturday 26th March 9.30-12.30: Next lesson

Break for Easter

Saturday 30th April 9.30-12.30: Final lesson and Reconciliation

Friday 20th May: First Communion Rehearsal

Saturday 21st May 11am: First Holy Communion Mass

