



## St Kentigern's Catholic Primary School

### Summer 2 Newsletter 2026

#### *"Treat Others As You Want To Be Treated"*

As we reach the end of another wonderful school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank every member of our St Kentigern's family for your continued support, kindness and encouragement throughout the year.

Our school is so much more than a building – it is a community built on faith, love and partnership. None of what we achieve would be possible without the unwavering support of our parents and carers. Thank you for entrusting us with your children each day, supporting their learning, attending our celebrations, volunteering at events and working alongside us to ensure every child flourishes. Your encouragement and commitment make an enormous difference, and we are truly grateful.

I would also like to express my thanks to our amazing staff. Their dedication, care and commitment to our children go far beyond the school day. Every member of staff works tirelessly to provide the very best opportunities for our pupils, ensuring St Kentigern's remains a happy, nurturing and successful school where every child is known, valued and loved.

This year also brings a bittersweet farewell as we say goodbye to Miss Wallbank, who is retiring after more than 24 years of dedicated service to St Kentigern's. Throughout her time here, she has inspired and cared for generations of children and has been a much-loved colleague. Miss Wallbank has made an immeasurable contribution to our school community and will be greatly missed by both staff and pupils. We thank her for everything she has given to St Kentigern's and wish her every happiness in the exciting new chapter that lies ahead. We also bid farewell to Mrs Pugh. Mrs Pugh has helped so many children over the years with speech and language and communication. She is using her skills to go back to university to pursue a career in this area. We wish her luck and happiness.

Finally, to our wonderful children – thank you for making us proud every single day. Your kindness, enthusiasm, resilience and determination are a joy to see, and it has been a privilege to watch you grow throughout the year.

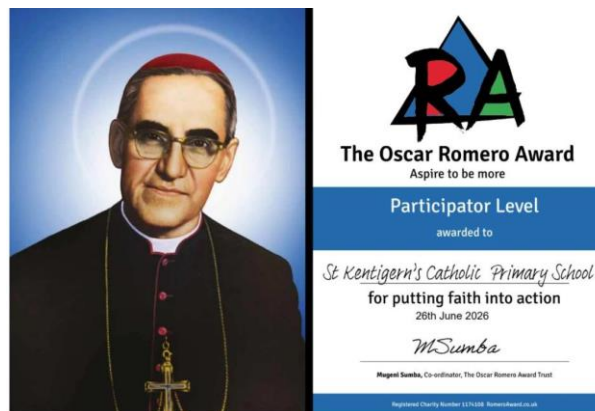
I wish all of our families a safe, peaceful and happy summer break. May it be a time to rest, make wonderful memories together and enjoy the blessings of family and friendship. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning, faith and fun.

Mrs Murray

## Catholic Life

### Oscar Romero Award

This term has been particularly significant for our school as St Kentigern's became the first school in the Diocese of Lancaster to receive the Oscar Romero Award. This prestigious recognition reflects our whole-school commitment to living out Catholic Social Teaching in every aspect of school life. Following this achievement, we have been invited to become one of only seven ambassador schools across the country, supporting and mentoring other schools as they begin their own Oscar Romero Award journey. We are extremely proud that our children will now have the opportunity to inspire others to put faith into action through justice, compassion and service.



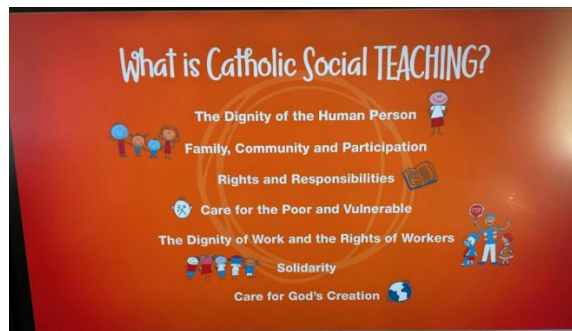
In June, we welcomed fathers, grandfathers, uncles and other significant male role models into school to celebrate Father's Day. It was a wonderful opportunity to recognise and give thanks for the love, guidance and encouragement they provide to our children. Together we reflected on the importance of family and vocation, remembering the words of St Paul:

***"Fathers, do not provoke your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4)***

On 20th June, we marked World Refugee Week, with every class exploring how we can welcome and support those who have been forced to leave their homes. As a proud School of Sanctuary, our children reflected on the dignity of every human person and our responsibility to offer welcome, compassion and hope.



An example is our reception children as they focused on the story *Save a Butterfly*, using it to begin discussions about home, family and belonging. They talked about what makes people feel safe before creating shelters using construction materials, small-world resources and junk modelling. Through imaginative play, they cared for baby dolls and considered the needs of young children, helping them to develop empathy and an understanding of how they can show kindness to others.



Catholic Social Teaching continues to be firmly embedded throughout school life. Pupils across all year groups have deepened their understanding of the principles of human dignity, solidarity, participation, the common good and care for creation. They have explored how these principles are not simply ideas to learn but values that should be lived each day through their actions, relationships and service to others.

To further support this work, we welcomed representatives from the Leprosy Mission into school. During Lent, our Year 4 pupils chose this charity as the focus of their fundraising. During the visit, the representative explained exactly how the children's donations had been used to support

people living with leprosy around the world. This enabled the children to see the real impact of their generosity and reinforced the importance of responding to the needs of others with compassion and practical action.



Our commitment to developing understanding and respect for other faiths was strengthened through our Multi-Faith Week on 19th June. Throughout the week, pupils explored the beliefs, traditions and practices of different faith communities while recognising the shared values of peace, respect, compassion and love.

As part of this learning, our KS1 children visited local churches where they explored the similarities and differences between Christian places of worship. Our Year 1 pupils also visited another local church, meeting parishioners and learning more about the wider Christian community. These visits helped pupils appreciate the richness and diversity of Christian worship while strengthening their own understanding of faith and belonging. Our KS2 children focused on other faiths and beliefs.

In June, some children attended the Blackpool Schools Cluster Mass, joining with children from across the deanery who had received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion earlier in the year. This celebration highlighted the unity of our Catholic schools and reminded our pupils that they belong to the wider family of the Church. I was extremely proud of the reverence the children showed throughout Mass.



This Summer Term, the children have continued to demonstrate our school mission through prayer, worship, service and action. Whether celebrating the sacraments, supporting charitable causes, welcoming those in need or learning about the dignity of every person, our pupils continue to grow as faithful disciples of Christ. We remain committed to providing opportunities for every child to encounter Jesus and deepen their faith.

### **Sports**

Last week, a group of our Year 4 and Year 5 children attended the annual Trust Sports Event at Stanley Park. They represented our school brilliantly and did very well, displaying great team work & enthusiasm.



A group of our Year 3 and 4 children represented our school in the Jimmy Armfield football tournament, last week, organised by Blackpool Community Trust. They played amazingly well and kept a clean sheet in the group stages, battling their way into the quarter finals. Their behaviour, manners and team work were brilliant.

Well done to all of the children involved and thank you to Mrs Ogden, Miss Borysiewicz and Mrs Long for taking them.



## **Farewell to Our Wonderful Year 6**

As another chapter comes to a close, we prepare to say goodbye to our fantastic Year 6 pupils as they begin the next stage of their journey at high school.

Although we are sad to see them leave, we are incredibly proud of the young people they have become. Over the years they have grown in confidence, faith, knowledge and compassion, embracing every opportunity and living out our school values with kindness and respect.

As a Catholic school, we hope we have given them strong foundations on which to continue building their faith journey. We pray that they carry with them the values of love, service, courage and hope as they embrace the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

To our Year 6 children, thank you for the laughter, the achievements, the friendships and the countless memories you leave with us. You will always be a treasured part of the St Kentigern's family, and our doors will always be open to welcome you back.

We wish each and every one of you every success and happiness in your new schools. May God continue to guide you, bless you and watch over you in all that you do.

**"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." *Joshua 1:9***



## **Family Support**

Family Hubs in Blackpool (families may access any hub):

Central Family Hub – Gorton Street, FY1 3JW – 01253 951190

North Family Hub – 31 Dingle Avenue, FY3 7NX – 01253 476480

South Family Hub – 207 St Anne's Road, FY4 2AP – 01253 476550

Please keep an eye on dojo over the holiday as if we hear of any events, we will let you know