

31st January 2025

## **Pilgrims of Hope**

Last Friday, all Catholic schools around the world launched the Year of Hope. Pope Francis has called this Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope'. It's an invitation to renew our hope, a hope which comes from knowing that God loves each one of us, whoever we are.

Pope Francis asks us to be signs of hope for others, by putting Catholic Social Teaching into action through caring for our common home and supporting our sisters and brothers who are experiencing war, hunger or poverty.

We know that the world is facing many of these challenges...but you are one of millions of people who are joining together in the Jubilee year, to bring the light of hope and the message of God's love to every part of the world!

We can all be Pilgrims of Hope (in 2025), so let's start our journey right now! Pope Francis says:

"By our actions, our words, the decisions we make each day, our patient efforts to sow seeds of beauty and kindness wherever we find ourselves, we want to sing of hope...and reawaken in every heart the joy and the courage to embrace life to the full."

Throughout this year we will be working with our worship leaders & Laudato Si groups to plan events, activities and ways of helping our local community. This way we can share our 'Hope' with each other.





## Jesus the Teacher

During worship or RE we sometimes use a piece of art to help reflect on God's word. The type of art shown here is called an icon. An icon is a sacred piece of art because it helps us to pray.

The art work above is by an artist (Mulugeta Araya) from Ethiopia and has been specially created for the Jubilee. It reminds us of the Jubilee's focus on freedom for those who suffer because they are facing poverty, or are in prison, or because they are experiencing war, unfairness or inequality.

On Monday the children were asked the following questions to discuss and reflect upon.
WHO is in the picture?
HOW do we know?
WHAT is Jesus doing?
WHY has the artist used these symbols?
What do you think God is saying to you today? How can we work together to bring good news of hope and love?

Lord, Open our eyes so that we can see you.

Open our ears so that we can hear your word.

Open our hearts so that we can love you and others more and more. Amen.

# **Upcoming Events**

## February

6<sup>th</sup> February- Yr 3/4 Table Tennis @ 4pm GCA PTA disco & AGM

14<sup>th</sup> February – Reports out to parents (interim) Wren class mass @ 10am

School closes for half term - 3.25pm

24<sup>th</sup> February- INSET (school closed for children)

25th February- School re-opens

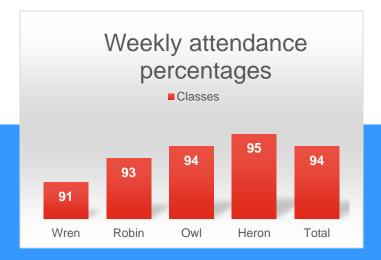
27th February- Yr 5/6 Boys handball @ 4pm GCA

28th February- Heron class mass @ 10am

### **PTA Events**

6<sup>th</sup> February- PTA Disco & AGM 7<sup>th</sup> March- Non-uniform Day in exchange for Mother's Day gifts 21<sup>st</sup> March- Non-uniform Day in exchange for Easter eggs 28<sup>th</sup> March- Mother's Day wrapping 28<sup>th</sup> March- Easter Bingo

Please support these family friendly events



### March

3<sup>rd</sup> March- New value- forgiveness

4th March- U11 netball match 4pm @ YMCA

6th March- World Book Day (information to follow soon)

7<sup>th</sup> March- Non-uniform day for Mother's Day gifts

Owl class mass @ 10am

13<sup>th</sup> March- Last Choir Standing Competition Year 5/6 table tennis 4pm @ GCA

14th March-Robin class mass @ 10am

19th March- Owl visit to Lancaster Maritime Museum

21st March- Non- uniform Day Easter Eggs

24th March-Last week for clubs

27<sup>th</sup> March- Girls Y5/6 Handball 4pm @ GCA 28<sup>th</sup> March- Mothers Day gifts & Easter Bingo

Whole school Lenten Mass

1st April- Parents Meeting 2.00pm

2<sup>nd</sup> April- Reconciliation Liturgy

3<sup>rd</sup> April- Owl Easter Reflection 9.30am (all welcome in Church)

3<sup>rd</sup> April -Tag Rugby Festival Y5/6 4pm @ GCA 4<sup>th</sup> April- School closes for Easter 1pm

#### Blue Badge Awards (Care & Compassion):

Wren - Leroy W

Robin - Jasper A

Owl - Jake T

Heron – Hannah T

#### **Rising Star Awards (History / Georgraphy):**

Wren - Seb A

Robin - Lily B

Owl - Jenson P

Heron - Oscar P

#### **Marvellous Writer:**

Wren - Hannah B

Robin - Sophia F

Owl – Maia W

Heron - Holly-Mae A