



Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow! It is quite surprising how much we have managed to fit into this week!

On Monday, we launched our Lenten 'Sowing the Seed' Challenge. This challenge is based on the Parable of the Sower – we want to be the good soil, where the Word of God grows through our words and actions. Every year group has chosen a charity which they want to support. During Lent, the children will fundraise – they will all do a sponsored event and make things to sell at our Sowing the Seed sale. A sponsor form will be sent home with your child next week – please help them to gain support from family and friends! We have set up a Just Giving page, which has a link for each of the charities. We will send you details of this and the link to it next week when we send out the sponsor form. This means that you can pay the money in directly, and claim Gift Aid for the charity if you are a UK tax payer. The sponsored event will take place during the school day, before the end of this half term. We would like to have all the money paid in via the Just Giving by the end of the Easter holiday – it will be great to see the totals rising and we will share this with the children throughout the campaign.

The children will also be using their talents to make things to raise money. On Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, we will have a sale of their wares! Children can bring some money in on that day and buy goodies such as cakes or popcorn, and things that children have made such as bookmarks and keyrings. We will tell you more about the event, and give you an idea of the price of things so you know what to send in! At 2.15pm, parents are invited to come in and make purchases (although we can't guarantee there will be anything left!) It is a really lovely event, one in which the children realise that they can take action that really makes a difference – we are putting into practice our commitment to be pilgrims of hope during this Jubilee Year! The charities the children have chosen are:

Reception – Hope for Food

Year 1 – Save the children

Year 2 – The Wave Project and the Cats' Protection League

Year 3 - Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

Year 4 – The Red Cross

Year 5 – Julia's House

Year 6 – Scope

### THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP WITH OUR FUNDRAISING!

It was lovely to see so many of you joining the children in Year 1 for their Celebration of the Word on Monday and Tuesday, we really appreciate it when you are able to come and join us for these special prayer times.

On Wednesday, we celebrated the start of Lent with a Celebration of the Word for the Key Stage 1 children in the morning, and a Mass for the Key Stage 2 children in the afternoon. Father Anthony and Deacon Barry kindly came in for both services, and brought ashes to all the children. It was such a lovely start to our Lenten journey.



3DB celebrating the start of Lent

On Wednesday afternoon, Mrs Tomlinson took our netball team to the finals of the High Five Tournament, and I am delighted to tell you that they won, and now progress to the Regional Finals – well done to the whole team, and to Mrs Tomlinson and Mrs Crutchley for their work with the team!



It was lovely to see all the children (and staff!) dressed up for World Book day on Thursday, and the staff really enjoyed hearing about the children's favourite books. Many thanks to you for supporting this event – and to Mrs Cunningham for organising the celebrations here at St Walburga's. Your child should have brought home a £1.00 book voucher on Thursday – they can use this for money off in a book shop, but it is also valid for our Book Fair if you bring it along next week!

### Book fair

As mentioned above, it's our Book fair next week from Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Your child will have a chance to browse during the day, but they will need an adult with them to 'shop' after school. **We are short of helpers** – please let us know if you could do one of the days from about 2.40 to 3.15ish. Many thanks.

### Great Fire of London day

Just to end our busy week, Year 2 have been very busy learning about the Great Fire of London today, with a first-hand account from a very special visitor (Samuel Pepys). Will include more information about this super day in next week's newsletter!

### Second hand uniform sale

Many thanks to Mrs Arthur and the team for organising our pre-loved uniform sale this afternoon – I'll let you know how much we made for school funds!

### School Nurse Drop in

We are really pleased to tell you that the School Nursing service have started their drop-in service again, and a public health Nursery Nurse will be available at St Walburga's on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April between 8.45 and 10.15am. This is a confidential, informal service for parents and carers (not for children). The nurse will be able to advise on a range of topics such as toileting, bed-wetting, sleep, nutrition and growth. If you would like to 'pop in' to meet with the nurse, please let the office know in advance and we can let them know.

No stars of the week this week, as we didn't have a whole school Celebration of the Word.

### Dates for your diary:

W/C 10 <sup>th</sup> March	All week	Year 3 'Stone Age Week'
Weds 12 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2.50pm	Book Fair 2.50pm – 3.15pm
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2.15pm	Year 3 parents and carers invited for 'Stone Age Showcase'
Weds 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	2.15pm	Sowing the Seed sale

Wishing you a lovely weekend with your family,

*Veronica Woodward*

Veronica Woodward  
Headteacher