

# Endsleigh Holy Child VC Academy



Headteacher Mrs. E Barrs  
Newsletter 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025



Dear parents and carers,

It has been a wonderful week in school with lots of enriching activities going on. We are excited to be able to tell you that we have a whole range of new reading books in Key Stage 2. Each class has a collection of novels that are to be used as individual reading books and we have made the decision to move away from book banding, and instead, organise our reading books by age range. We believe this will really enthuse and motivate the children to enjoy their reading, rather than feel constrained by a book band. Children have already started to spot and pick out titles that they are excited to read, which is so lovely to see. There are more developments to come, including more books for Key Stage one and our revamped library space. Thank you for all you do at home in reading with your children and encouraging the children to use their local library. I have been really impressed in year 6 this week by some children who couldn't wait to tell me about and show me the books they have borrowed. Today we have all enjoyed celebrating World Book Day in mixed age class groupings. Thank you to Mrs Broadhead, who is leading us all with her passion for reading and her hard work in bringing us new ideas and inspiration.

We have also started our Lenten journey for this year, by going to Mass and receiving the ashes on Wednesday morning. We are making our Lenten promises to pray, give and fast. We would love your support with our Big Lenten walk as explained in last week's newsletters as part of our giving to others.

Please also join us in prayer:

Loving God,  
Sometimes my heart  
turns in every direction  
except towards you.  
Please help me  
to turn my heart toward you,  
to gaze upon you in trust  
and to seek your kingdom with all of my heart.  
Soften my hardened heart  
so that I might love others  
as a way to glorify and worship you.  
Grant me this  
with the ever-present guidance of your spirit.  
Amen.

Wishing you a lovely weekend with your families,  
Best wishes,  
Mrs Barrs

## **Pupil Voice**

On Wednesday the whole school went to Mass to celebrate Ash Wednesday. This was the start of Lent where Jesus stayed in the desert for forty days and fasted. During Lent, we can give up something to show that we are sacrificing something just like Jesus. We enjoyed taking the ashes and seeing the cloths change from green to purple

## **Facial Palsy Awareness Week**

It was lovely to see our entire school supporting this awareness week and one of our brilliant pupils in particular. Thank you to those who sent money in for this very worthy cause. We kindly ask that instead, you visit this link to the justgiving page if you would like to make a donation.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/elizayogathon>

## **Reading Books**

**REMINDER: Children must have their reading books and reading record in school every day.** Children who are learning phonics have their books changed at the appropriate stage in their teaching, and therefore do not have set days for book changes. Please support your child's journey in learning to read by ensuring that they bring their book to school every day.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Stay and Pray Class 6 – 3pm 12<sup>th</sup> March

Stay and Pray Class 4 – 3pm 19<sup>th</sup> March

Stay and Pray Class 3/4 – 3pm 26<sup>th</sup> March

Stay and Pray Class 5/6 – 3pm 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Easter Holiday - school closes on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April and re-opens on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Y4 swimming lessons - Tue 22/04/2025 to Fri 02/05/2025

May day - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May

Half term - school closes on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May and re-opens on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Summer Music Concert – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June

School closes for the summer break on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July

School opens for the Autumn Term on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

## **The Travelling Cross**

The Travelling Cross has commenced its journey into the homes of each of our children, fostering a sense of community throughout the school, as each family participates in a shared spiritual journey. We hope that you will embrace this opportunity and welcome the Travelling Cross as a special guest, setting aside dedicated time for prayer and reflection. Even a short period will be meaningful if you can pray together as a family, expressing gratitude, asking for blessings, and contemplating what God's love means to each family member. A diary is included in the bag where children can record their experience in pictures or words. We hope that engaging with the Travelling Cross will provide a significant and memorable Easter experience for all our families. Please support us in achieving this by returning the Travelling Cross to school the following day.

God bless

Miss Rollinson



## **World Book Day**

We thoroughly enjoyed World Book Day yesterday! The whole school read the book 'Bloom' by Anne Booth, which is a beautiful story about kindness and the power of positivity. The children completed a range of activities in their own classes, and also took part in some shared activities across the school. In the morning, children from Foundation to Year 6 paired up with a buddy from another class and shared books together. In the afternoon, years 1 to 6 had the opportunity to complete activities with different pupils and different members of staff across the school as they explored 'Bloom' in creative ways. The feedback from the children has been overwhelmingly positive, and it was fantastic to see and hear all of the positive talk about books and stories throughout the day.

## **Designated Roles**

SENCO/Safeguarding Lead – Mr. J Fox

Assistant Head – Mr. J. Guthrie

EYSF Lead – Mrs. J Leach