



Statement of the week

"I try to appreciate the beauty and the wonder in the world around me."

World Down Syndrome Day,

21st March is a global awareness day that has been officially observed since 2012. Each year the voice of people with Down Syndrome, and those who live and work with them grows louder. But there is still so much more we can do! Our local Down Syndrome network is called, Sunshine and Smiles and they are asking people to celebrate by wearing a smile on Friday 20th March to raise awareness of how people with Down Syndrome play a vital role in our lives and communities.

In school perhaps we could wear odd socks, one grey sock to show that we are all made in the image of God and one odd sock to recognise that we are all uniquely wonderful!

Mini Vinnies

This Friday 20th March we are having an assembly presented by a member of the St Vincent de Paul's. They are going to talk about "Mini Vinnies"

"Mini Vinnies" is a St Vincent de Paul Group in a Primary School. It is a group of young people in a Primary School who get together, organise and talk about helping others in need within their own community and beyond. What makes Mini Vinnies such a valuable experience for children, who are part of it, is the change it makes in school communities. Mini Vinnies' groups usually meet once a week or fortnight during lunchtime or after school and are run by school staff members, a member of the parish or a governor. Mrs Hodkinson has

volunteered to organise this group. Hopefully after the assembly children in Years 4, 5 & 6 can write a letter asking to be part of a Mini Vinnie group.

Fun Run

All the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Leeds are going to take part in a fun run as part of ongoing fundraising for one of our Catholic teachers Ann Maguire who died so tragically last year. The event will be held at Theresa's School in Leeds and our Year 4 & 5 classes will be taking part. The school will pay for the coach but we are asking for a contribution of at least £1 per competitor for the Ann Maguire Fund. Each child in Y4 & Y5 will receive a t shirt for the event and we are expecting several thousand children taking part. The event will take place in the afternoon of April 24th and more details will follow for children in those classes.

If any other parent wishes to contribute to the Ann Maguire Fund then please send your donation into school and we will add this to our school contribution.

Easter Celebrations

Each Monday the children have been learning about the Stations of the Cross and I have been so impressed with the respect and interest shown by the children and their excellent questions and responses.

We have also been getting ready for our KS2 Easter Liturgy at Church on Monday 30th March at 6 p.m.

The Year 4 class have been involved in a drama depicting the Easter Story. Mr Roberts from John Fisher's has been working with the children. There will be a performance for parents of Year 4 pupils and KS2 on Wednesday 1st April at 9 a.m.

On Holy Thursday we are having an Easter Service in school celebrated by Deacon Charlie Conner at 9.30. Please could we have all the smartie tubes in by the 30th March please? All money raised will go to the Good Shepherd Fund that you read about last week in the newsletter.

Dates for your diary

24th March 10 a.m. -KS2 children are going to walk to St Joseph's Church for a rehearsal.

30th March – Leeds Rhino Assembly for all children

30th March – KS2 Easter Concert in St Joseph's Church at 6 p.m.

31st March – Show and Share Session Y5 & Y6

1st April – Franciscan Sisters in school to work with our First Communion Class (Y3)

1st April – Show and Share Session Y5 & Y6

1st April-The Easter Story by Year 4 for parents of children in the class.

2nd April- Easter Service celebrated by Deacon Charlie Conner in school at 9.30.

School finishes for the Easter holidays 1.30 p.m. and we return to school on Monday 20th April.

Solar Eclipse

Some classes have prepared to view the solar eclipse tomorrow at 9.30 so it will just be the Mini Vinnies assembly! Can you please bring in any certificates or trophies for next week please!

Finally I would ask that your thoughts and prayers are with Canon Nunan as he recovers from his operation.