



# St. Stephen's C.E. Primary School

## Aspire to Greatness



For we are the handiwork of God, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10

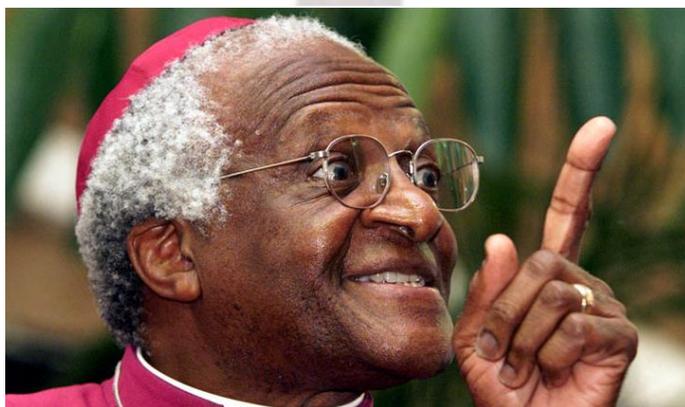
### This Week's Worship Value was "Wisdom" as we explored S for Succeed

#### Value of the Week

Welcome back to school after the half term holiday! The season of Lent has begun. The pancakes were tossed in half term and now Christians have entered into a period of fasting and a time to nurture their faith; asking for forgiveness and considering the needs of others. In a short time, many in our community will be fasting during Ramadan and this will also deepen faith and promote time to consider the needs of the most disadvantaged. Living without luxuries focuses the mind and enables us to see the things we take for granted.

Our faiths teach us to respect one another and to respect the planet and its resources. So in worship this week, we explored the value of "wisdom" as we seek to "Succeed" in enriching one another as well as the earth. Ms Wright explained that she has given up some luxuries, to spend more on shopping items which benefit those who are less fortunate. Buying more expensive toilet roll (made of bamboo), not wrapped in plastic and where profits go to help build toilets in Ghana, is one small way to help others, as well as the earth. Bamboo produces 30% more oxygen than trees, absorbs 35% more carbon dioxide than trees and grows back far more quickly. Buying Fairtrade products also benefits others, as well as giving to charity at this time. Children and families are invited to join in with a challenge to help the earth and others too!

We remembered the words of Archbishop Desmond Tutu who invited us always to do something, even if only a small thing, to help others and to help the world.



## 'Healthy Earth Healthy US'

The Values Leaders will be working hard to encourage children and families to give something up which helps the planet. Next week, we will be exploring ways in which we can eradicate single use plastics from school. So many children bring food and snacks to school wrapped in single use plastics. Much of this food isn't healthy for our bodies either. We will also be encouraging healthy eating and hope that children will consider giving something up for Lent and to choose healthier options in their diet.

**"Healthy Earth Healthy US"** will be our slogan for the weeks leading up to Easter.

If your child would like to produce a piece of Art work or create a poster to encourage others to help the earth that would be brilliant.



We have explored the Christian Aid website where we saw the impact of children's art work around the country and which was displayed at the Houses of Parliament in London. Some of our pupils' work was selected for the exhibition. You can watch the video [here](#)

It would be wonderful if families could join in with our theme for Lent as we encourage the most disadvantaged, living in countries affected by climate change.

## Easter is Coming

During our R.E. lessons, we will be learning themes from the Easter story. Each class will also be "getting vocal" in their learning, using oracy skills (speaking and listening) to share their understanding of a small section of the story. The classes will be creating some artefacts for a special treasure hunt in the Environmental Area and which will be signposted with donkeys. The donkeys and artefacts when found, reveal a letter which will spell out a word (when written in the order of the Easter story). We have bought a small Fairtrade chocolate egg for each child who visits the trail during the last week of term and families are invited to do the trail for themselves after school on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March and staff will be on hand to help and it will be Ms Wright's last community event before leaving at the end of term.

Junior pupils will also visit church for a special Easter experience. A "Question Time" panel of Easter characters will tell them more about the Easter story and children will receive a drink and a snack. The Easter experience is always a real treat!

On the final day of term, Maundy Thursday (28<sup>th</sup> March), Bishop Jill will visit school for our Easter assembly. We are hoping for good weather and to celebrate Easter in the new worship area outdoors. We shall also reveal a wonderful mosaic which is currently being worked on in school. Mrs Garstang has done a tremendous job to design the mosaic and to use the ideas of some of our children, as well as their crafting skills. As this will be positioned in the outdoor worship area, families will be able to view the work when visiting the Easter trail on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March.

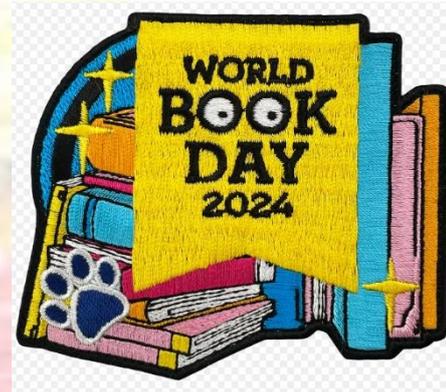


### World Book Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

World Book Day will take place after half term and the Class Librarians met with Miss Booth to discuss their ideas. They will launch a competition, like last year, where children model a character and enter it into a competition. The prize will be hot chocolate, a book mark, book and popcorn or cookies!

Children may come to school on World Book Day wearing/bringing 3 items to hint at a book character. We will then spend the day trying to work out who the characters are. For example, red shoes, a blue bow and a basket might represent Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz. A scar, a wand and a wizard's hat would clearly be "Harry Potter".

There are a few weeks to go so that families and children can put on their thinking caps! Staff will also share 3 clues with the children so that they can guess their book character too!



### Staff News

Mr Coxhead was in school this week and was able to meet a number of parents when they visited for Parents' Evening. He will be taking over as headteacher after the Easter holidays.

### Parents' Evening

Many thanks for attending Parents' Evenings this week. The teachers reported on how lovely it was to meet families and to report back on the children's attainment and progress. If you were unable to meet your child's teacher then please send them a dojo as they would love to work to make sure your child reaches their potential.

### Clubs for this Half Term

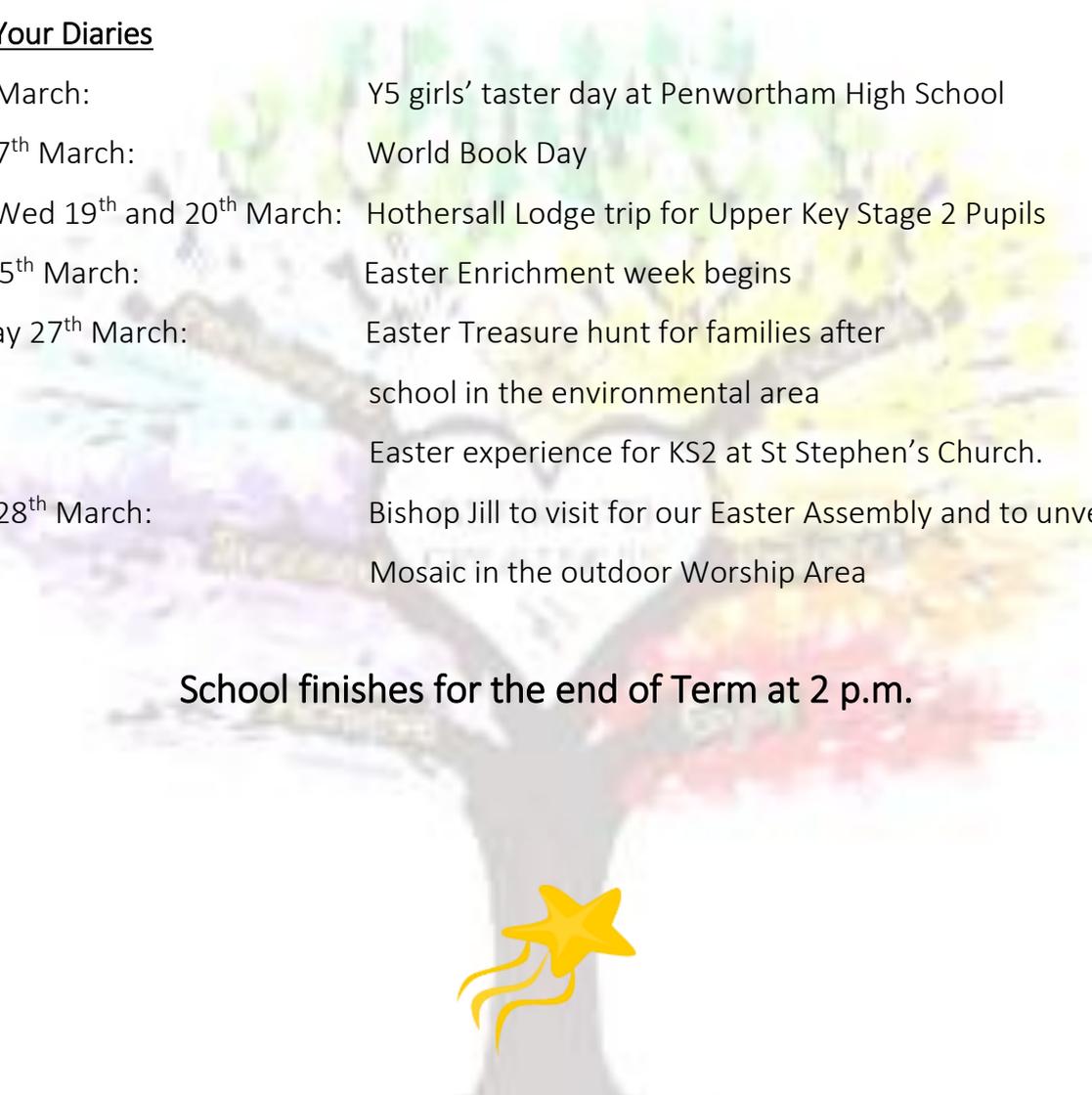
Please contact school if you require information about any of these activities:

Club	Day	Staff Leading
Mosaic Art (Values Leaders)	Most Lunchtimes	Ms Wright and Mrs Garstang
Maths Y6 SATs Booster	Monday 3.20 – 4.20 p.m.	Mr Scott
Maths More Able Y6 SATs Booster	Friday Lunchtime	Mr Scott
Lunch club	Every day	Mrs Haughton, Miss Livesey and Mrs Kasmierska
Dodgeball Disco	Wednesday 3.20 – 4.20 p.m. Lower KS 2	Mr Haydock and Miss Patel
School council	Tuesday Lunch	Mrs Cheetham
Maths Club	Wednesday 3.20 – 4.20 p.m.	Mrs Cheetham
Brilliant Book Awards	Wednesday after School	Mrs Harlow and Miss Booth
Girls Football	Wednesday Lunchtime	Fishwick Rangers
Chinese Club	Thursday Lunchtime	Mrs Gorman
Eco council	Thursday lunchtimes	Mrs Cookson
Chess	Tuesday lunchtimes	Mrs Cookson
Y6 Reading Booster	Tuesday 3.20 – 4.20 p.m.	Mrs Devitt
Crochet Club	Fridays 3.20 – 4.20 p.m.	Mrs Molloy
Fencing	Monday 3.20 – 4.20 p.m.	Private provider

### Polite Reminder about Uniform

Please can we remind families that earrings and other forms of jewellery should not be worn in school for health and safety reasons. We also ask that children wear shoes, ankle boots or black trainers, not knee length boots or trainers with logos to school. We have purchased new stocks of uniform and if you need any support with any aspect of uniform then please ring the office for advice. Thank you.

### Dates for Your Diaries



Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March:	Y5 girls' taster day at Penwortham High School
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March:	World Book Day
Tues and Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> March:	Hothersall Lodge trip for Upper Key Stage 2 Pupils
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March:	Easter Enrichment week begins
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March:	Easter Treasure hunt for families after school in the environmental area Easter experience for KS2 at St Stephen's Church.
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March:	Bishop Jill to visit for our Easter Assembly and to unveil our Mosaic in the outdoor Worship Area

**School finishes for the end of Term at 2 p.m.**

**VIP Winners who have "Aspired to Greatness"**

**These children "Achieve Highly" and Trust God for the future**

**Yanshi P - Reception Inventors Sidney S - Reception Explorers**

**Zana P - Y1 Maria R - Y1/2**

**Sebastian S – Y2 Ariella I-I – Y3 Rayhan A – Y3/4**

**Alexia S & Sumaya A – Y4 Faeryn M-B - Y5 Salma A – Y5/6 Nahara S - Y6**

Golden Book winners who have “Aspired to Greatness” in their Work

Yesha L - Reception Inventors Enid F - Reception Explorers

Jaxon D - Y1 Zaynab M - Y1/2

Aliyah H – Y2 Sebastian I - Y 3 Hannah B – Y3/4

Tommy W – Y4 Anissa O – Y5 Elon K - Y5/6 Panna B - Y6

Lunchtime VIPs – who have “Aspired to Greatness” and excelled at lunchtimes in their behaviour

Oscar S - Reception Inventors Shyfamily D - Reception Explorers

Benjamin S - Y1 Elizabeth G - Y1/2 Layla R – Y2 Luke N-W - Y3

Muneerah B – Y3/4 Khadijah A – Y4 Safiyyah G - Y5

Aisha M & Daniella O O – Y5/6 Atiyah S – Y6

