



10th October 2025



# Newsletter



**GOSPEL VALUE:** Our Gospel Value for next week is Love. Please reflect on this at home with your child.

## Weekly Reflection.

In the Gospel this coming weekend, we hear the story of the 10 lepers. Jesus heals all 10 of them but only 1 returns to say thank you. We are reminded of how a simple thank you can mean the world to a person. In life we don't expect thanks or a gratitude overload, but when someone says a genuine and unexpected thank you it lifts us up. We teach the children about this everyday as part of showing Love to our neighbour. I am so proud of our pupils because most of our pupils have no expectations or sense of entitlement in their young sincere personalities and saying thank you is something that they do without having to think about it. They are truly following in the footsteps of Jesus and keeping Him firmly in the centre of their lives. Let us all try hard to show love, kindness and gratitude to each other every day. Let us be the light in someone else's day.



Have a wonderful weekend

*Mrs Kerrell*  
Headteacher



## Year 6 Prefect Badges

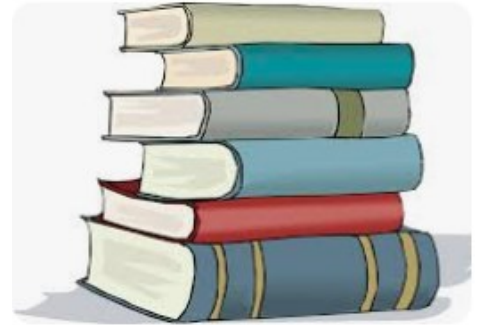
We will give out our Year 6 Prefect Badges in assembly on Friday 17th October. There will not be an awards assembly that day. Year 6 parents are welcome to attend this assembly at 2:15pm.

## Parent Teacher Consultations

We will be holding Parent/Teacher consultations in the week after the half term break. Appointments will be available to book soon.

## Library Books

We are starting our Library Visits again this year to the local library at Tye Green, Unfortunately, lots of the children are unable to take out books as they have books that are overdue. We are therefore offering a library book amnesty. Please look for library books at home and bring them into the school office by next Friday and we will arrange for them to be returned. Please do not bring in any other books. Children will now only be allowed to take out one book at a time when they visit the library to stop this situation arising again.



## Harvest Assembly-Save the Date

We will have our traditional Harvest Assembly on Friday 24th October at 2:00pm. Parents are invited to attend and our Reception children will make a very short appearance (about 10 minutes-they won't stay) at the beginning, to bring in our Harvest Gifts.

## School Trips

Mrs Slater is in the process of booking the school trips for the year for Years Reception-Year 5. Please look out for an email which will give you the information and payment details.

## Football Team

It has been an action packed couple of weeks for our boys football team. On Friday 26th September, we attended the morning and afternoon qualifiers at Passmores. Our team in the morning of Archie, Kojo, Tadhg, Blake, Barry, Diale, Filip and Jayden played some great stuff and managed to win every game without conceding a goal to qualify for the finals. Our afternoon team of Axel B, Eryk, Jackson, Parker, Caiden, Hendrix J, Axel O and Ciaran also did us proud and scored some super goals. They won, drew and lost which unfortunately was not quite enough to see us through to the finals.

On Friday 3rd October, we returned for the football finals with our morning team plus Ciaran, as we were part of the 9 best teams from the qualifiers. We drew 1-1 with a strong Newhall team and then were edged out 1-0 to Jerounds. The boys gave everything and created lots of chances but could not quite get the equaliser. We were then put into a new group, where we won and drew to finish strongly. Unfortunately, we did not qualify for the Essex 7 a-side finals but we are looking forward to 9 a-side football as we look to defend the Stacey Pardoe Cup. We also await the cup draw for our newly formed girls team too which is very exciting.

Well done to all of the boys involved who once again demonstrated a high level of skill and teamwork which impressed the two coaches, Mr Clarke and Mrs Sontag.



Mini Vinnies Food Collection 2025

# Harvest FESTIVAL

collecting for  
Streets 2 Homes charity  
13th to 24th October



## Times Tables Rockstars

Congratulations to the following children for trying really hard with their times tables this week.

Hedgehogs:	Charles	Squirrels:	Jayden
Badgers:	Tharani	Foxes:	Dilara
Hares:	Jude	Rabbits:	Damian
Kingfishers:	Mayah	Robins:	Dominic
Eagles:	Luna	Owls:	Dominik

**ACL****Online Courses****Community & Family Learning Courses**

<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<b>START DATE</b>	<b>END DATE</b>	<b>START TIME</b>	<b>END TIME</b>
FL FAMILY FIRST AID	20/10/2025	20/10/2025	09:30	11:30
FL SETTING BOUNDARIES	21/10/2025	23/10/2025	09:45	11:45
FL ROUTINES RULE	22/10/2025	22/10/2025	19:00	21:00
FL SETTING BOUNDARIES	23/10/2025	30/10/2025	10:00	12:00
FL UNDERSTANDING ADHD IN CHILDREN	24/10/2025	31/10/2025	09:00	11:30
FL UNDERSTANDING BIG EMOTIONS	24/10/2025	24/10/2025	12:00	14:30



If you would like to enrol on to a FREE course please Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type the course title in the 'Find a course...' box

**aclessex.com****0345 603 7635**

Essex County Council



**ACL**

# Family First Aid at ACL Harlow

**Come along and learn some lifesaving techniques to keep your family safe. This Family First Aid session is for families. Learn how to perform CPR, how to deal with choking, burns and poisoning and common childhood medical concerns.**

**Date: 15/10/2025 & 22/10/2025      Time: 10:00 - 12:00**

**Scan the QR code, or  
Visit our website  
[acessex.com](https://acessex.com) and type  
'FIRST AID' or "HO3A01FC25"  
in the 'Find a course...' box**



**[acessex.com](https://acessex.com)**

**0345 603 7635**



Essex County Council

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to this week's winners of the KS1 Attendance Award, Butterflies achieving 99% attendance. The winners of this week's KS2 Attendance Award are Eagles, attaining 99% attendance. Well done!

Please ensure you are sending your child into school everyday, unless they are not well enough to attend. Attending school is so important and makes a huge difference to your child's learning. The gates open at 8:30am until 8.55am.

It is essential you notify us of your child's absence by 9am either by telephone or using the Arbor report absence option on every day of absence. We need full details of why your child is unable to attend school. We are frequently having to contact parents, to find out why their child is absent from school. If you do not notify us of the reason for your child's absence it may not be authorised.

Absences over 3 days require supporting medical evidence, for the additional absence to be authorised. Medical evidence can take the form of prescriptions, antibiotics and medical appointments.

Parents of children below attendance targets will be invited in for a meeting with the Educational Welfare Officer.

Butterflies	99%
Ladybirds	96%
Dragonflies	98%
Grasshoppers	94%
Hedgehogs	96%
Squirrels	97%
Badgers	90%
Foxes	97%
Hares	98%
Rabbits	95%
Kingfishers	98%
Robins	98%
Eagles	99%
Owls	94%

## Gospel Value Awards

### Integrity

honesty, truth, honour, faithfulness

"Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Matthew 25: 14-30



Congratulations to the following children who received the Gospel values certificate this week.

Dragonflies:	Azari	Grasshoppers:	Francesca
Hedgehogs:	Chloe	Squirrels:	Riley
Badgers:	Grace	Foxes:	Luca
Hares:	Lottie	Rabbits:	Zuzanna
Kingfishers:	Tadhg	Robins:	Rosie
Eagles:	Aimee	Owls:	Hendrix



Based on the gospel for Sunday 12 October, Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 17:11-19

"One of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks."

Jesus heals ten people of leprosy, but only one of them comes back to thank him - a Samaritan.

We see in this story how Jesus' healing is not restricted to one group of people. God's love and mercy are for all people who are open and willing to receive it, regardless of their background or where they come from.

This story also shows us something about gratitude. Nine of the ten people healed went away without looking back or returning to say thank you. People with leprosy were forced to live separately, so perhaps they wanted to rush back and see their loved ones again. Perhaps they were caught up in celebrating, sharing their story, or simply forgot. We do not know.

But we do know how easy it is for us to get distracted. To take for granted all the gifts that God has given us. The beauty of creation, the food that we eat, our friends and our family - all that we have comes from God.

So let us turn to God in thanks and praise this week and open our hearts to God's healing love. Filled with gratitude and joy at what we have received, we are also called to be open and generous to others, despite the differences between us.

Healing God,  
we give you thanks and praise for all the gifts that you have given us. May the love that we have received lead us to share generously with one another, and work together to build a better world.  
Amen.



### The Words of Pope Leo XIV

The Risen Lord walks alongside each of us, as we journey every day. With infinite care, he asks to let Him warm our hearts. He waits patiently for the moment when our eyes will open to see His friendly face, so He can transform our resignation into hope. #GeneralAudience



**Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025**  
 The 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C – Luke 17:11-19

**Relax**

Make the Sign of the Cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. Then read the Gospel — preferably aloud and slowly — paying attention to any words that stand out to you.



**Read This Sunday's Gospel : THE SAMARITAN LEPER**



On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, "Jesus! Master! Take pity on us." When he saw them he said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, "Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner." And he said to the man, "Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you."

**Did any words or phrases stand out to you in the Gospel? If so, take a few moments to meditate on them.**

**Reflect**

Now read the Gospel again and consider what the Lord might be saying to you, or asking of you, through it. Then continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection...



We see why the story of the cure of Naaman the leper has been chosen as our first reading today: in the Gospel reading we find another cure of a foreigner, and not an ordinary foreigner, but a hated foreigner. There was a cordial hatred between Jews and Samaritans: for the Jews, the Samaritans were a wretched hybrid race, who accepted only part of the Jewish Bible, and had their own ideas about the coming Messiah. Yet Luke has already recounted the story of the Good Samaritan, who succours the wounded traveller who had been neglected by Jewish priest and Levite. Now only a Samaritan comes back to thank Jesus for the cure from leprosy. Samaritans are the foreigners geographically nearest to Jesus, but hated by the Jews. If the Samaritans can set an example to the Jews, so can many other foreigners. In his initial proclamation Jesus promises salvation to the gentiles, and Luke misses no opportunity to show us gentiles ripe for salvation: the centurion of Capernaum who built the synagogue and whose son is cured, the guests for the banquet called in from highways and byways. Luke is preparing for his second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, where the Good News will spread to the ends of the earth, even to Rome itself.

**Christians believe that no race is superior to another. Why?**

**Rest**

Now call to mind the Lord's love for you, remembering that through this scripture the Lord is truly present. Then silently and prayerfully listen for God's voice and rest in God's love.



**Respond & Request**

Thank God for any insight you may have received, and respond by asking the Holy Spirit to bless you with a spiritual gift or help you to grow in a particular fruit of the Spirit. You might pray for wisdom, courage, faithfulness, self-control, patience, generosity, joy, kindness, love, peace, faith, chastity - or another grace - to help you live out your faith this week.



**Remember**

This Wednesday's word for our families is **THANKFULNESS!**  
 (To see the Family Version, please visit: [wednesdayword.org](http://wednesdayword.org))



**As you pray for your loved ones, please remember to pray for the Church and for the families connected to our schools.**

St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



### First Reading: *Naaman the Syrian*



#### 2 Kings 5:14-17

**Naaman the leper went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as Elisha had told him to do. And his flesh became clean once more like the flesh of a little child. Returning to Elisha with his whole escort, he went in and stood before him. "Now I know," he said, "that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now, please, accept a present from your servant." But Elisha replied, "As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing." Naaman pressed him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, "Since your answer is 'No', allow your servant to be given as much earth as two mules may carry, because your servant will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord."**

*This little excerpt is the stub-end of one of the most delightful stories in the Bible (read it!). It pairs with the Gospel reading. In his opening proclamation in the synagogue at Nazareth Jesus declares that he has come to save the gentiles too, just as Elisha did, citing Naaman as an example. Today we*

*read about the cure (the saving of Naaman) itself. The odd bit about two 'muleloads' of earth is the result of the belief, still persistent at that time, that the God of Israel could be worshipped only on the soil of Israel – so take some soil with you! Naaman wants to express his gratitude to the Lord at his home too. At the time attributed to Elisha and Naaman (mid 9th century BC) the Lord was accepted as God of Israel, the Sovereign and Protector of Israel, but this implied nothing about other nations. It was not until the Babylonian exile, when Israel was confronted with the multiple gods of Babylon, that Israel came to believe that the Lord was the God of the whole earth, the whole universe, and that all the other deities, such as those of sun and moon and stars, were simply timing-devices plugged into the vault of heaven by the Lord himself. God reveals himself to Israel, and to us, gradually. **How has your faith deepened or developed over the years?***



### Second Reading: *The Grounds for Hope*



#### 2 Timothy 2:8-13

**Remember the Good News that I carry, 'Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David'; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal - but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it. Here is a saying that you can rely on: if we have died with him, then we shall live with him; if we hold firm, then we shall reign with him; if we disown him, then he will disown us; we may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful, for he cannot disown his own self.**

*If Paul is chained as a criminal, at least he gives the grounds for his hope and his security: 'the saying is sure'. The kernel of the Good News is the Resurrection, and that is enough for Paul. If Christ is risen from the dead, nothing more is required; this in itself is the fulfilment of the promises to*

*David. Paul quotes a little symmetrical hymn ('if we have died with him...') which was no doubt sung by the early Christian congregations. The earliest external evidence to the Christian liturgy is a letter from Pliny, governor of a province in what is now northern Turkey, in the early second century, written only a few decades after the Second Letter to Timothy. He has examined Christians under torture and sends his findings to the Emperor. Christians, he says, meet on a set day (presumably Sunday), make oaths of loyalty to one other, sing a hymn 'to Christ as to a god', and then have a meal (presumably the Eucharist). The hymnic phrases in today's reading could be part of just such a hymn mentioned by Pliny, sung under the pressures of persecution, celebrating the union of Christ with his followers, and Christ's fidelity to his own people, whatever they do to him: if we are faithless, he remains faithful. **What does the hymn in this letter to Timothy teach us about life in Christ?***

**“The kernel of the Good News is the Resurrection.”**

**The Wednesday Word: Connecting Home, School and Parish through the Word of God**



Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us how we can live happier lives by giving God what is due to him. But what is due to God in our own lives? Surely our thankfulness would be a good answer to this question.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read about the Samaritan who thanked Jesus. For us too, there are many blessings in life for which we can be thankful and it's always worth giving thanks to God.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Being thankful to God puts us in the right frame of mind. It is good for our well-being and helps us to be happy in life.

Enjoy a special *Family Time* together, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **THANKFULNESS**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from the Saints

"In all things recognise the care and wisdom of God, and give God thanks." St Teresa of Avila

## THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025



On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, "Jesus! Master! Take pity on us." When he saw them he said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." Now, as they were going away, they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, "Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner." And he said to the man, "Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you."

Adapted from Luke 17:11-19

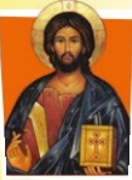
The 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.  
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

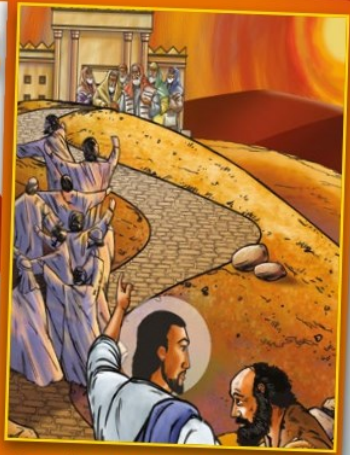
Having Hope  
in our Families

Thankfulness strengthens our relationship with God and with each other. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that making the right response to God's kindness, with praise and thankfulness, brings great joy into our lives.



# Good News for Families

## TOGETHER TIME



### 1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

On his way to Jerusalem, Jesus went into a village. Ten men with leprosy, a terrible skin disease, stood a long way off. They shouted, "Jesus! Master! Take pity on us." Jesus said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests as the Law teaches us." As they went on their way they were all healed. But only one of the ten, a Samaritan, turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you."

**How many lepers returned to say thank you?**

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

### Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

### 2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"Be thankful for the smallest blessings, and you will deserve to receive greater blessings." *Thomas à Kempis*

## THANKFULNESS



Ask your child what the word 'thankfulness' means to them. You may want to help your child understand what the word 'thankfulness' means to you. Can your child remember a time when they felt really thankful to someone? How did they show their thanks to that person? Each of you name one or two things that (as well as your family) you are most thankful to God for.

Remembering to say 'thank you' to God regularly throughout the day helps love to grow in our hearts. Who else will you remember to thank this week? Perhaps a parent or carer, a family member, a teacher or a friend. How will you do this—perhaps with a hug, kind words, a thank-you note, a prayer, a gift, or by offering them your help? Even a small act of kindness can mean a lot.

3 + Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for blessing us in so many ways. Help us to be always thankful to you and to show our thankfulness by loving those around us. Amen.

### FINDING THREE!

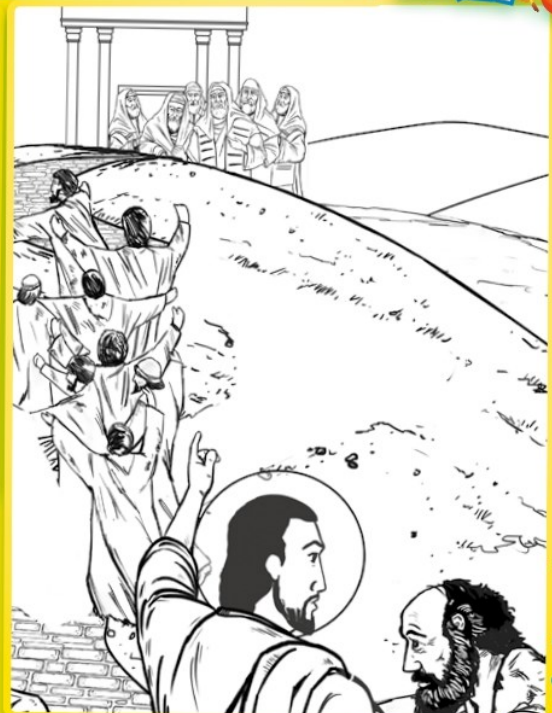
**WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH**

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	LEPERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	SHOUTED	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	HEALED	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	ONE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	RETURNED	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	THANKED	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	JESUS	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

STEROEJESUS  
ATDENRUTERH  
LHBOEKREEU  
OAESNJDPSTO  
KNCHOEDJUD  
IKAOTLEPERS  
NETUDLKTRNP  
TDOTAHEALED  
LHLENDTENTD  
SUHDSUSEJHN  
TDEKNAHTLDE



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

Cross out the letters **u b m** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

**bamtu tuhrebmw thumankbed febemt**

"The Samaritan \_\_\_\_\_ himself \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus and \_\_\_\_\_ him."



It is always good for us to be thankful to God for the blessings of his love, for our lives, our talents, our families, our school and for the love of those around us.



This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley

Happy Birthday this week to...

Freya, Jacob, Autumn,  
Nick, Elsie, Gerald,  
Cameron James & Lillian.



### Golden Awards

- Dragonflies: Isabel, for working hard in her phonics.  
Grasshoppers: Anaya, for being so helpful throughout the day.  
Hedgehogs: Gracie, for being a kind and welcoming member of our class.  
Squirrels: Jude, for sharing lovely ideas when writing a class prayer.  
Badgers: Tharani, for being a kind and caring friend.  
Foxes: Zoe, for writing a thoughtful prayer about caring for creation.  
Hares: Diona, for always having a great attitude especially in maths.  
Rabbits: Melisa, for always completing her tasks to the best of her abilities.  
Kingfishers: Sophie, for her fantastic finding story! Well done!  
Robins: Eva, for writing a brilliant finding story.  
Eagles: Isabella, for fantastic English work linked to our class WW2 novel.  
Owls: Freya, for her excellent writing.

### House Points

**Congratulations to the winning house this week, St David's**

Please download our News & Events App for dates for the year. Details are available on the schools website under News & Events at [www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk](http://www.holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk)

### Menu week 1

## Diary Dates

#### Monday 13th October

Badgers swimming

\* Drama club

Art club

Scrapbook club

Lego club

Coding club

Mindfulness and Yoga club

Board Games club

Girls football team

Boys football team

Year 6 Boosters

#### Tuesday 14th October

Year 5 reading zone 9 am

Eagles library visit

Kingfishers library visit

\* Multisports club

\* Dance club

Year 6 Boosters

Young Carers club

#### Harvest Collection

#### Wednesday 15th October

Year 5 reading zone 2:45 pm

\* Football club

\* Karate - Years 2 & 3

#### Thursday 16th October

Year 5 reading zone 9 am

Squirrels library visit

\* Football club

\* Karate - Years 4, 5 & 6

Cafod club

\* External club, fees apply

#### Friday 17th October

Prefect Celebration assembly 2:15 pm

\* Musical Theatre club

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Mrs A Kerrell



JUBILEE 2025  
PILGRIMS OF HOPE