

LiveSimply

St Paul & St Timothy's Catholic Infant School

Lead Person- Maria Reichinger



Global Action 1 – Main Living in Solidarity action

We will take part in the Big Lent Walk fundraising and raising awareness of CAFOD



What did we do and what was the impact?

- ▶ *Our whole school took part in **CAFOD's Big Lent Walk** to raise funds for our global family, supporting people experiencing poverty and hardship around the world. Throughout Lent, each class spent time walking around the school grounds during the school day and at playtimes, recognising that every step could help make a difference to the lives of others.*
- ▶ *We also encouraged our whole school community to walk, scoot or cycle to school whenever possible. This not only supported our fundraising efforts but also promoted healthier lifestyles, reduced traffic congestion and improved air quality around our school.*
- ▶ *Through this action, children developed a greater understanding that they are part of one global family and that their actions, no matter how small, can help people they may never meet. The Big Lent Walk inspired children and families to be active together while raising awareness of global poverty and the importance of standing in solidarity with others. By choosing more sustainable ways to travel, families also helped reduce their impact on the environment, showing that caring for people and caring for our common home go hand in hand. Together, our school community raised valuable funds for CAFOD, strengthened our commitment to living in solidarity and demonstrated that, by working together, we can make a positive difference both locally and globally.*

As this was one of our main actions, we involved the whole school by...

During Lent all the children gave up their playtimes to walk laps of the school field. Every child participated in this.

How did faith inspire and encourage our action?

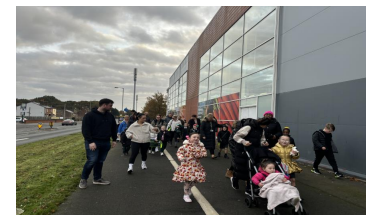
Our faith inspired us to take part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk because Jesus teaches us to care for others, especially those who are most vulnerable. As Jesus reminds us, *"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me"* (Matthew 25:40). During Lent, the children put their faith into action by walking together and raising money to support our global family, showing compassion, generosity and solidarity with those in need.

What did we learn by participating in this action?

The children learned that by working together, they can make a positive difference to the lives of others. Through CAFOD assemblies and workshops, they gained a deeper understanding of CAFOD's work, the importance of supporting people in need and how their Lenten actions reflected Jesus' call to love and care for our global family. They also learned that small acts of generosity can have a lasting impact.

How did we involve the wider community in this action?

We invited our parents/carers and members of our local community to participate in our Walk to School Wednesdays during Lent to raise money for CAFOD.



Global Action 1 – Main living in solidarity action

We will take part in the Big Lent Walk fundraising and raising awareness of CAFOD



What did we do?

Our Mini Vinnies made posters to advertise the event.



Our Local CAFOD representative visited school to deliver an assembly and workshops to raise awareness about the work of CAFOD and how our fundraising can help communities all over the world.



Global Action 1 – Main living in solidarity action



“We are helping
people all over
the world”
Oscar



“It made me
happy to walk
with my friends
and raise money
for CAFOD.”
Hallie

Global Action 1 – Main living in solidarity action

BIG LENT WALK

This week, our whole school took part in a special Lent walk around the field. The children walked thoughtfully and took time to notice and talk about the wonderful things they could see in God's beautiful world.

As we walked, we reflected on the meaning of Lent and discussed why we were taking part. The children showed great understanding as they talked about helping others and giving to those in need. Our walk also helped raise money for CAFOD to support people around the world. It was a lovely reflective experience and we are very proud of the children for their enthusiasm and thoughtful participation.



BIG LENT WALK



We would like to say a huge thank you to all our parents and carers for your generous donations towards CAFOD's Big Lent Walk. We raised a total of £157.33

Your kindness and support have helped us to make a real difference to communities in need around the world. Through your contributions, we are helping others to have access to food, clean water and a brighter future.

We are very proud of the children for taking part and showing such care and compassion for others.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

"We are helping people all over the world"
Oscar



"It made me happy to walk with my friends and raise money for CAFOD."
Hallie



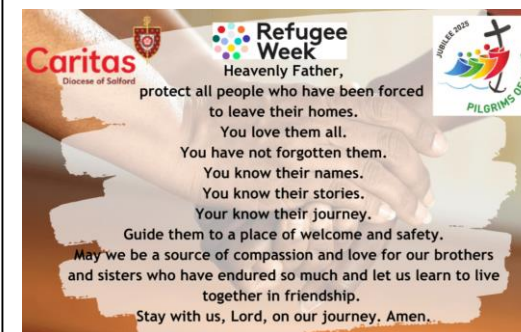
Global Action 2 – Living Simply

As part of our **School of Sanctuary** work, we participated in Refugee Week 16th -24th June 2025 to celebrate the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Noor Mohammed from Asylum Link visited school to lead an assembly and present workshops talking about life as a refugee. We participated in International Day of Peace, 21st September. We will prayed for all affected by war and conflict and prayed for refugees and displaced people. Children coloured symbols of peace and Y2 children wrote prayers for our global sisters and brothers who are affected by war and conflict.



How did faith inspire and encourage our action?

During Refugee Week and the International Day of Peace, we reflected on how we can put our faith into action by praying for those affected by war and conflict and by welcoming and supporting people seeking sanctuary. Our actions were inspired by Jesus' words: **"I was a stranger and you welcomed me."** (Matthew 25:35). This reminded the children that, as members of God's global family, we are called to love, serve and care for others, especially those who are most vulnerable.



1. Dignity of the Human Person

Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.
Jeremiah 1:5.
"...there are still too many situations in which human beings are treated as objects whose conception, configuration and utility can be programmed, and who can then be discarded when no longer useful, due to illness, weakness and old age..."
Address to European Parliament,
25 November 2014.



What did we learn by participating in this action?

By participating in Refugee Week and the International Day of Peace, the children developed a greater understanding of the experiences of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. They learned about the challenges many families face when they are forced to leave their homes because of war, conflict or persecution and recognised the importance of showing kindness, compassion and respect to everyone. The children also learned that they can play a part in building a more peaceful and welcoming world through their words, actions and prayers. Meeting Noor Mohammed helped bring these experiences to life and encouraged the children to see refugees not simply as people in need, but as valued members of our global family who have much to contribute. Through reflection and prayer, the children understood that even small acts of welcome, friendship and solidarity can make a positive difference and help us live out the Gospel values of love, peace and justice.

Global Action 2 – Living Simply

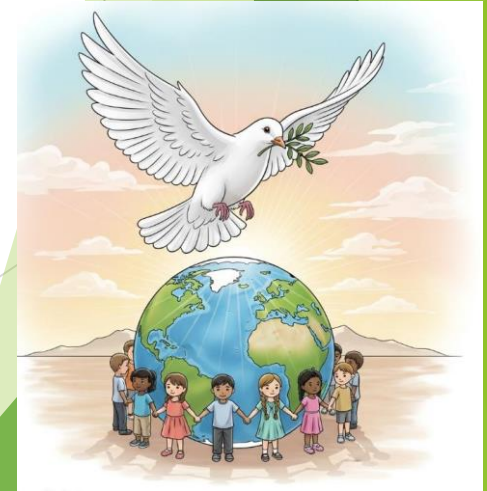
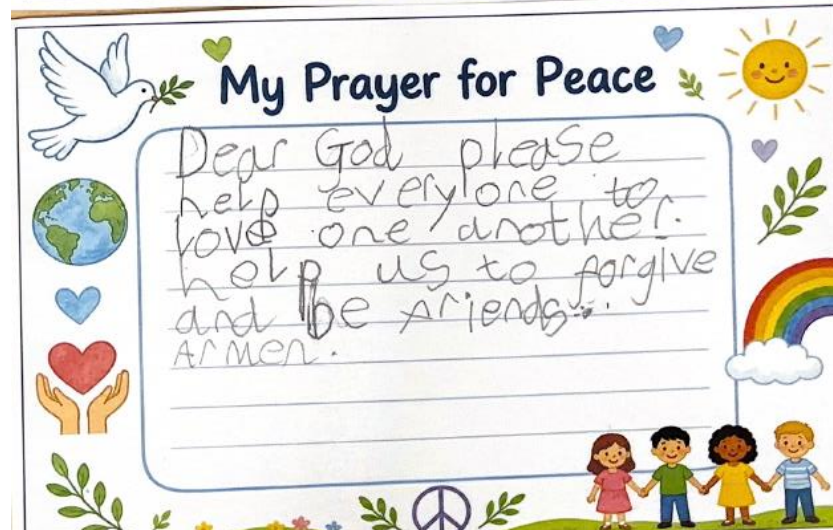
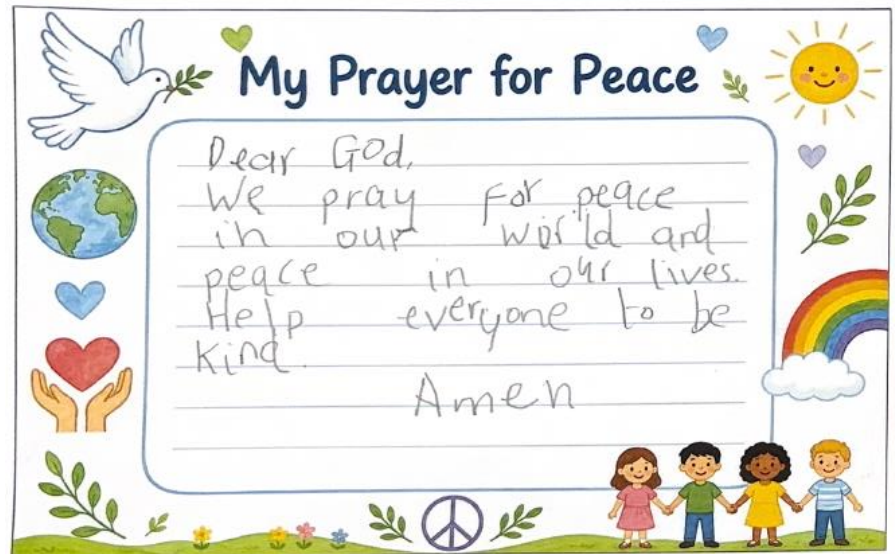
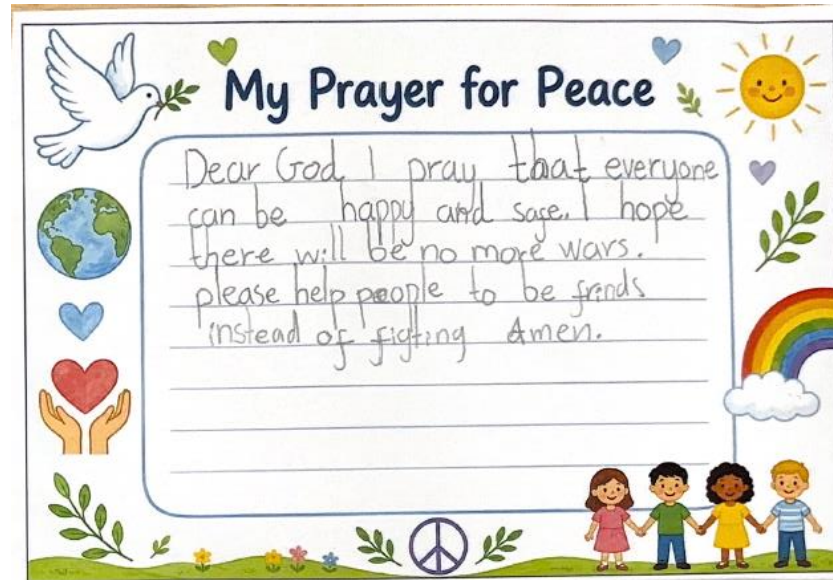
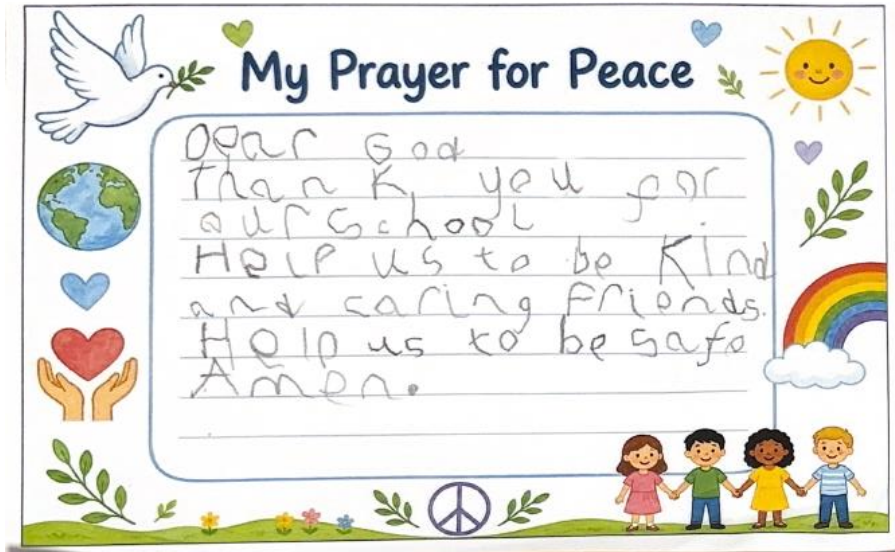


"Noor told us about his life.
It made me feel sad, but
I'm happy he is safe now."
me feel sad, but I'm happy
he is safe now."
James

"I learned that refugees have
to leave their homes because
it isn't safe. I want everyone
to have somewhere safe to
live."
Sophia

Global Action 2 – Living Simply-Peace Prayers

Examples of our prayers for peace



Global Action 3 –Live in Solidarity

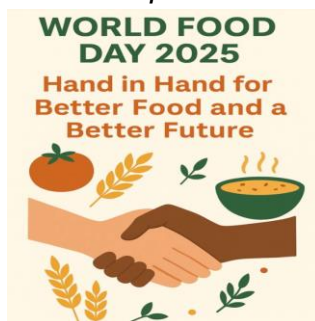


What did we do? (*Please tell us about the action you took and any impact.*)

Our whole school participated in **World Food Day** by taking part in a '**Coin and a Tin**' collection. Children were invited to bring a food donation and a coin to support people experiencing hardship. The food collected for Harvest was donated to local families through our parish food bank, while the money raised was sent to CAFOD to support communities around the world living in poverty.

Our Year 2 children proudly helped deliver the food to church for collection by the local food bank, giving them a real sense of responsibility and service. This action helped children understand that not everyone has enough food and that even small acts of generosity can make a big difference. It encouraged children and families to think beyond themselves, developing empathy, compassion and a desire to help others.

By supporting both local families and CAFOD's global work, children learned that they can make a positive difference to people in their own community and across the world, living out the Gospel call to love their neighbour.



How did faith inspire and encourage our action?

Our faith inspired this action by reminding us to thank God for the gifts of the Harvest and to share those gifts with others. As followers of Jesus, we are called to care for people who are experiencing hardship and to show love through acts of kindness and generosity. By taking part in our 'Coin and a Tin' appeal, the children were able to put their faith into action by supporting both local families through the food bank and vulnerable communities around the world through CAFOD.

We reflected on Jesus' words: "**For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.**" (Matthew 25:35). This encouraged the children to recognise that by sharing what they have, they are living out the Gospel and helping to build a fairer and more compassionate world.

What did we learn by participating in this action?

By taking part in our 'Coin and a Tin' appeal, the children learned that not everyone has enough food or the resources they need, and that simple acts of generosity can make a real difference to the lives of others. They discovered that by working together as a school community, even small donations can provide hope and practical support for local families through the food bank and for communities around the world through CAFOD.

The children also learned the importance of gratitude for the gifts they have received and recognised that sharing with others is one way of living out their faith. Taking the donations to church helped them understand how our school, parish and local organisations work together to support those in need, reinforcing that we are all part of one community with a responsibility to care for one another.

Global Action 3 – Live in Solidarity



"I brought a tin because I wanted to help families who don't have enough food."

Bella

"Harvest is about saying thank you to God and sharing with others."

Theo

Global Action 3 –Live in Solidarity



HARVEST COLLECTION

Many thanks for your generous contribution towards our harvest collection. We raised £221.47 for CAFOD. The food collected will go to support a local foodbank.



CAFOD
Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

HARVEST COLLECTION

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for Overseas Development



Next week, as part of our Harvest celebrations, we are asking the children to bring in a coin and a tin to support those in need.

- The coin will go towards raising money for CAFOD, helping communities around the world.
- The tin will be donated to our local Foodbank, to support families nearby.

Please bring your donations in by **Friday 10th October**.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity – together we can make a real difference!

Local Action 1 – Main Living Simply Action



What did we do? *(Please tell us about the action you took and any impact.)*

- ▶ We have strengthened our links with our local community by building meaningful relationships with a local care home and the parishioners of St Paul and St Timothy's Parish.
- ▶ Our Y2 children visited the local care home to sing for the residents and spend time chatting with them. At Christmas, the children also made and sent Christmas cards to help spread joy and remind the residents that they are valued and remembered. These visits encourage the children to show kindness, compassion and respect for older members of our community.
- ▶ We have also welcomed parishioners into school each term to celebrate Mass with us, strengthening the partnership between our school and parish. In addition, grandparents were invited into school to join their grandchildren for a special Celebration of the Word. These opportunities bring different generations together in prayer and fellowship, helping our children to appreciate the importance of community, belonging and caring for one another.
- ▶ We also worked in partnership with St Paul's Junior School and the Parish Council to celebrate an International Mass, bringing together people from across our parish and local community. The celebration recognised and celebrated the rich diversity of cultures, languages and traditions within our community, reminding us that we are all united as one family in Christ.
- ▶ Through these experiences, our children are living out Gospel values by building relationships, serving others and recognising that everyone has gifts to share. They have developed a greater understanding of the importance of inclusion, compassion and being an active part of their local community.

How did faith inspire and encourage our action?

Our Catholic faith teaches us that every person is made in the image and likeness of God and deserves to be treated with love, dignity and respect. Inspired by Jesus' example of welcoming others, showing compassion and caring for those who may feel lonely or isolated, we wanted our children to put their faith into action.

By building relationships with residents of the local care home and strengthening links with our parish community, our children have experienced what it means to love their neighbour and serve others with kindness.

Gathering together in prayer and worship with parishioners and grandparents has also helped the children to recognise that we are all part of God's family, called to support and care for one another.

Our actions reflect the Gospel message to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34) and our mission to live out our faith through service, community and compassion.

What did we learn by participating in this action?

Through this action, our children learned that even small acts of kindness can make a big difference to someone's day. They discovered the importance of building relationships across generations and gained a greater appreciation of the experiences, wisdom and value of older members of our community.



Local Action 1 – Living simply Photos/videos/pupil voice



YEAR 1 & 2 GRANDPARENTS COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This week, we were delighted to welcome our Year 1 and Year 2 grandparents into school to join their grandchildren for a special collective worship. Your presence made the occasion truly special for the children, who were delighted to share this prayer time with you.

Moments like these help create lasting memories for our children and strengthen the connection between school and family.

Thank you once again for your continued support, we look forward to welcoming you back again in the future.



The people in the care home smiled when we sang. I think we made them happy."

Nancy



"I liked talking to the old people and they liked the Christmas card I gave them."

Louis

Local Action 2 – Living in Solidarity



What did we do? *(Please tell us about the action you took and any impact.)*

As a school community, we committed to supporting families in need by collecting food bank donations every half term. Following each collection, the donations were distributed to local families through our parish and community network, ensuring practical support reached those experiencing hardship. This ongoing commitment has strengthened our culture of generosity and shown children that their small acts of kindness can make a real difference to the lives of others.

*To launch the initiative, the whole school took part in a prayer and liturgy based on **Mark 12:29–31**, where Jesus teaches us to love God and to "love your neighbour as yourself." Children reflected on what it means to "walk in someone else's shoes" and considered how acts of kindness, generosity and compassion can make a real difference. Through this, they developed a greater understanding of empathy and began to recognise that everyone has a responsibility to care for those in need.*

We worked closely with the parishioners of St Paul's and St Timothy's Parish, who joined us in supporting the collection and distribution of donations. This strengthened the partnership between our school and parish, demonstrating how people of all ages can work together in solidarity to support others. The initiative also inspired many families to contribute regularly, reinforcing the message that when a community works together, it can bring hope, dignity and practical support to those facing difficult times.

How did faith inspire and encourage our action?

As a Catholic school, we believe we are called to follow Jesus' example by caring for those in need and putting our faith into action. Collecting food for the local food bank enabled our children to live out the Gospel values of kindness, generosity and service. By working alongside St Paul and St Timothy's Parish, the children experienced how faith communities can come together to support others and build a more caring and compassionate world.

What did we learn by participating in this action?

The children learned that some families in our local community need extra help and that we can all make a difference by sharing what we have. They understood that even a small donation can help someone else.

They learned that Jesus asks us to love and care for our neighbours and that we can show God's love through kindness, generosity and helping others. By working together with our parish, the children saw how our school community can support people in need and make our community a kinder and more caring place.

Local Action 2 – Living Simply

Our Foodbank Collections



"I brought some food because I wanted to help families who don't have enough."
Patrick

"I like helping other people because everyone should have enough food to eat. It shows that we are kind and we care."
Anton

Local Action 3 – Living in solidarity/sustainably



What did we do? *(Please tell us about the action you took and any impact.)*

We established a Mini Vinnies group in partnership with St Paul's Junior School. Our Mini Vinnies meet regularly to pray, reflect and plan ways to make a positive difference in our school, parish and wider community. Inspired by the values of kindness, compassion and service, they show that no one is too young to make a difference. Through the simple approach of '**See, Think, Do,**' they have inspired other children to put their faith into action through acts of kindness, fundraising and caring for our common home.

Inspired by *Laudato Si'*, our Mini Vinnies, together with our Eco-Council, have played a leading role in caring for God's creation. They worked with Mersey Forest to plant 99 trees, helping to increase biodiversity and make our school grounds greener. They have created a herb garden, planted flowers, sown seeds and grown fruit and vegetables, including carrots, peas, tomatoes, courgettes, cabbages, raspberries and strawberries. They also helped prepare the raised beds in our school allotment, generously gifted by Fr John Southwark in June 2026. These projects have given children hands-on experiences of caring for living things, helped them understand where food comes from and encouraged them to take pride in looking after God's world.

Our Mini Vinnies have also supported food bank and clothing collections, helping families in need within our local community. They represented our school at an International Harvest Mass, working alongside members of the Parish Council to plan and prepare the celebration, strengthening links between our school and parish. They have enthusiastically supported charities including CAFOD, Macmillan, Nugent Care and The Bobby Colleran Trust by promoting fundraising events, selling raffle tickets and collecting donations. Through their example, they have inspired the whole school community to live out the Gospel values of love, service and generosity. Their actions have helped children recognise that even small acts of kindness can make a real difference and that everyone can play a part in building a fairer, more caring and more sustainable world.

How did faith inspire and encourage our action?

Our Mini Vinnies are inspired by Jesus' call to love our neighbour and serve others. Through prayer and reflection, they use the **See, Think, Do** approach to recognise needs, consider how they can help, and take positive action rooted in the Gospel values of kindness, compassion, justice and service.

Inspired by *Laudato Si'*, they have cared for God's creation by planting trees with Mersey Forest, creating a herb garden, growing fruit and vegetables, and helping to establish our school allotment. These experiences have helped them understand their responsibility to care for our common home.

Their faith has also encouraged them to support people in need by organising foodbank and clothing collections, helping to prepare the International Harvest Mass, and leading fundraising for charities including CAFOD, Macmillan, Nugent Care and The Bobby Colleran Trust. Through these opportunities, our Mini Vinnies have shown that they can live out their faith by making a positive

difference in our school, parish and wider community.

What did we learn by participating in this action?

Through being Mini Vinnies, our children learned that everyone can make a positive difference, no matter how young they are. They developed a deeper understanding of Catholic Social Teaching by recognising the importance of caring for those in need, working for the common good, and being good stewards of God's creation.

They learned that small acts of kindness and service can have a big impact on others and that working together enables us to achieve more. By supporting charities, helping those in need, caring for the environment and working alongside our parish community, the children grew in confidence, compassion and responsibility.

Local Action 3 – Living in solidarity

"When we planted the trees and flowers, I knew I was helping to look after God's beautiful world."
Evie.Y2



We collected donations of food and uniform



Our Mini Vinnies assembly and Meeting

"Being a Mini Vinnie helps me be more like Jesus because I can help people who need us."
Albie Y2



Planting trees, fruit and vegetables

Local Action 3 – Living in Solidarity

MINI VINNIES



Our Mini Vinnies, met with their Junior school members to organise fundraising events to raise money for CAFOD. We will be participating in the Big Lent Walk from 19th March. Look out for further information in the coming weeks.



Harvest Festival



THANK YOU

Thank you so much for your generous donations to our Harvest Collection. Our Mini Vinnies and some of our Year 2 children helped take the food over to church this week where it will be distributed to a local foodbank.



"When we planted the trees and flowers, I knew I was helping to look after God's beautiful world."

Evie

HARVEST COLLECTION

Many thanks for your generous contribution towards our harvest collection. We raised £221.47 for CAFOD. The food collected will go to support a local foodbank.



CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

"Being a Mini Vinnie helps me be more like Jesus because I can help people who need us."

Albie

School Action 1 – Living Simply & Living Sustainably Action



What did we do? *(Please tell us about the action you took and any impact.)*

We have created a peaceful Prayer Garden where children can spend time reflecting on God's creation, enjoying the beauty of nature and praying for our world and the people who live in it. The Prayer Garden has become a special place where children enjoy quiet moments of prayer and reflection. It helps them feel close to God and encourages them to appreciate and care for the world He created.

Inspired by our commitment to care for our common home, we have introduced a range of sustainability projects across the school. In partnership with Mersey Forest, we planted 99 trees to increase biodiversity and make our school grounds greener. We have also created growing areas where children plant and care for fruit, vegetables, herbs and flowers that attract bees and butterflies.

These projects have helped children learn where food comes from, why plants and pollinators are important and how to care for living things. They have loved planting, watering and watching things grow, taking great pride in helping to look after our school environment. Our school grounds are now richer in wildlife, and children are beginning to understand that even small actions can make a big difference in caring for God's world.

As this was one of our main actions, we involved the whole school by...

All children were asked to consider what they would like to have in their Prayer Garden. They produced some designs which were shared in assembly.

The Prayer Garden is used by all classes for prayer, Celebration of the Word, and quiet reflection.

Each year group take responsibility for caring for the plants/flowers/trees in specific areas of the school grounds.

The whole school celebrated environmental awareness days such as Earth Day, World Environment Day, linking learning to our sustainability projects.

How did faith inspire and encourage our action?

Our faith inspired this action because we believe the world is God's gift to us and we all have a responsibility to care for it. Through prayer, Collective Worship and learning about Laudato Si', the children understand that looking after our common home is one way we can live out our faith. We are caring for God's creation by planting trees, growing plants and creating spaces where people and wildlife can flourish.

What did we learn by participating in this action?

Through this action, we learned that everyone can help care for God's creation and that small actions can make a big difference. The children learned how trees, plants and pollinators help our environment and why it is important to protect nature. By growing fruit, vegetables and herbs, they also learned where food comes from and how to care for living things.

Spending time in the Prayer Garden gives them opportunities to pray, reflect and appreciate the beauty of God's world. They learned that caring for our common home is an important way of living out their faith.

How did we involve the wider community in this action?

Fr John from St Paul's Church donated two church benches for our Prayer Garden. He has also provided us with an allotment to further develop our commitment to stewardship and becoming more sustainable.

Our families donated lots of plants and seeds.

Our local Tesco supported us by donating lots of gardening equipment, tools and compost.

Food for Thought provided practical support and advice and helped prepare our allotment space.

We had volunteers from the local community who gave up their time to prepare our planters and raised beds with compost, paint our benches, fences, etc.

By involving pupils, staff, families, governors, our parish community, local volunteers and partners such as Mersey Forest, Tesco and Food For Thought, we helped everyone recognise that caring for God's creation is a shared responsibility and that we can all play a part in living more sustainably.

School Action 1 – Living Simply & Living Sustainably



"My child is so enthusiastic about growing fruit and vegetables at school. They have even asked if we can grow some at home and are much more aware of looking after nature."
Rachael (Parent)

"I like going to the Prayer Garden because it is quiet and I can talk to God and thank Him for the beautiful world."
Ralph Y1



"We grew carrots and tomatoes. It made me happy because we looked after them and they grew."
Ruby Y2

School Action 1 – Living Simply & Living Sustainably

We planted trees and grew our own fruit and vegetables



Caring for God's gifts
Stewardship



Taking part
Participation

School Action 1 – Living Simply & Living Sustainably

OUR FAITH GARDEN

June 20th 2025

As part of our work towards achieving the Live Simply Award, we are developing a Prayer Garden at our school – a calm and welcoming space where children can connect with nature, take quiet moments for prayer, and enjoy the beauty of the outdoors.

We are designing a sensory area filled with wonderful sights, scents, and textures to engage the senses and promote wellbeing. To help bring this vision to life, we are kindly asking for donations of plants, shrubs, herbs, and seeds, especially those that attract pollinators and wildlife. Lavender, wildflowers, mint, and flowering shrubs are just a few examples that would be perfect!

If you are able to contribute or have any gardening expertise to offer, please contact the school.
Thank you.



School Action 1 – Living Simply & Living Sustainably

THANK YOU FATHER JOHN

We would like to say a huge thank you to Father John for kindly gifting our school an allotment for the children to use. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to learn about growing fruit and vegetables, while caring for God's creation.

We have already started planting potatoes and our Mini Vinnies were excited to see how much they have grown.

We are very grateful for this special gift and look forward to sharing more updates as our allotment continues to grow.



School Action 2 – Living Simply

What did we do? (Please tell us about the action you took and any impact.)

As part of our commitment to the Live Simply Award, we invited all of our families and the wider school community to make a personal pledge to live more simply and care for our common home. Every child received a Live Simply pledge card to complete with their family, encouraging conversations about the small changes we can all make to protect God's creation, reduce waste and support those in need. This initiative strengthened the partnership between home and school, inspiring families to make practical changes in their daily lives and reinforcing the message that everyone can play a part in caring for our common home. Together, these individual pledges demonstrate our shared commitment to living simply, sustainably and in solidarity with others, showing that small actions, when taken by a whole community, can have a lasting impact.

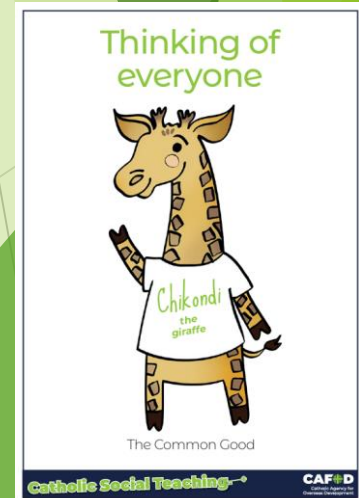
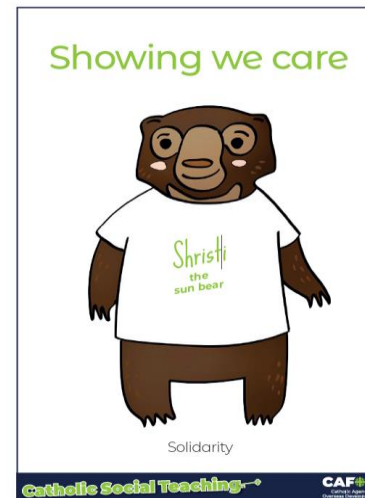
How did faith inspire and encourage our action?

Our faith inspired this action by reminding us that God calls us to care for His creation and to live simply so that everyone can flourish. Inspired by *Laudato Si'* and the Church's teaching on stewardship, we encouraged our families and school community to reflect on how small everyday choices can protect our common home and support those in need. By making a personal Live Simply pledge, we committed to putting our faith into action and living out Jesus' call to love our neighbours and care for the world God has entrusted to us.



What did we learn by participating in this action?

Through this action, we learned that everyone can make a difference by making simple, positive choices each day. Children discovered that living simply is about caring for God's creation, reducing waste, sharing with others and thinking about the impact our actions have on people and the planet. Completing the pledges together also helped families recognise that when a whole community works together, small actions can lead to meaningful change.



School Action 2 – Living Simply

Our Live Simply Pledges



As a school community, we are working hard to achieve the Live Simply Award. Today, your child will bring home a special 'Live Simply' pledge card. We would love you to talk together as a family and write down one simple promise that you could make.

Some ideas might include:

- Turning lights off when leaving a room
- Walking to school when possible
- Recycling more at home
- Using less water
- Donating toys or clothes to others
- Spending time helping a neighbour or relative
- Saying a prayer for people in need
- Reducing food waste

We would be grateful if the pledge cards could be returned to school next week so that we can display them.

St. Paul & St. Timothy's Catholic Infant School
Live Simply Pledge Card

Our family are making a pledge to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with others

We pledge to: _____

Family Name: _____

LiveSimply

I made a pledge with my family to recycle more at home.
Lucy Y1

Picking up litter or turning the lights off helps care for God's world.
Henry Y2

School Action 2 – Living Simply

Litter Picking



School Action 3 – Main Living Sustainably Action



What did we do? *(Please tell us about the action you took and any impact.)*

- ▶ Inspired by *Laudato Si'*, we have encouraged our whole school community to think carefully about how we can reduce waste and care for our common home through the principles of **refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle**. These actions have helped to embed a culture of sustainability across our school, with children and families becoming more aware of how their everyday choices can protect God's creation.
- ▶ We have taken part in the Big Plastic Count, become a Plastic Clever School and participated in the Big Battery Hunt, helping children understand the impact of waste on our environment. Recycling bins are available in every classroom and the staffroom, making recycling a normal part of daily school life. Through assemblies and awareness days, including World Earth Day, World Ocean Day and World Bee Day, children have developed a greater understanding of environmental issues and have been inspired to make positive changes both at school and at home.
- ▶ We also encourage our families to choose more sustainable ways to travel to school. Through Walk to School Wednesdays and our Travel Tracker initiative, more children are choosing to walk, scoot or cycle to school. This has helped to reduce traffic around the school, promote healthier lifestyles and encourage families to think about how their travel choices can care for the environment.
- ▶ To reduce unnecessary waste, we reuse our Nativity costumes each year so families do not need to buy new ones. We also hold regular school uniform and book swap events, giving pre-loved items a new life while supporting families and reducing waste. These initiatives have strengthened our sense of community, encouraged families to reuse rather than buy new, and helped make sustainable choices accessible to everyone.
- ▶ To minimise food waste, leftover lunchtime food is collected and taken to a local pig farm where it is used to feed pigs and chickens. This has helped children understand that food should not be wasted and that resources can be used responsibly in ways that benefit both people and the environment. Together, these actions have empowered our children to become active stewards of God's creation, recognising that even small changes can have a lasting impact on our common home.

How did faith inspire and encourage our action?

Our faith inspired this action through the Catholic Social Teaching principle of **Care for God's Creation**, which reminds us that the Earth is a precious gift entrusted to us by God. We reflected on the words of **Psalm 24:1**, *"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it,"* recognising that we all have a responsibility to protect and cherish our common home. Inspired by *Laudato Si'*, we encouraged our school community to make sustainable choices by reducing waste, reusing resources, recycling, and choosing greener ways to travel. Through these actions, we are putting our faith into practice by showing gratitude for God's gifts and caring for creation for future generations.

As this was one of our main actions, we involved the whole school by:

We involved our whole school community by making sustainable living part of everyday school life. Children and staff took part in recycling, the Big Plastic Count, Big Battery Hunt, Walk to School Wednesdays and environmental awareness days, with our Eco Council helping to promote these activities. Families supported us through sustainable travel, uniform and book swaps and reusing items such as Nativity costumes. Through assemblies, classroom activities and communication with families, we encouraged everyone to recognise that small changes can make a big difference in caring for our common home.

What did we learn by participating in this action?

Through this action, we learned that everyone can help care for God's world. The children learned that simple things, like recycling, reusing items, walking or scooting to school, and not wasting food, all help to protect our environment. They began to understand that even small actions can make a big difference when we all work together. Families also learned how making simple, sustainable choices at home can help care for our common home now and for future generations.

School Action 3 – Living sustainably

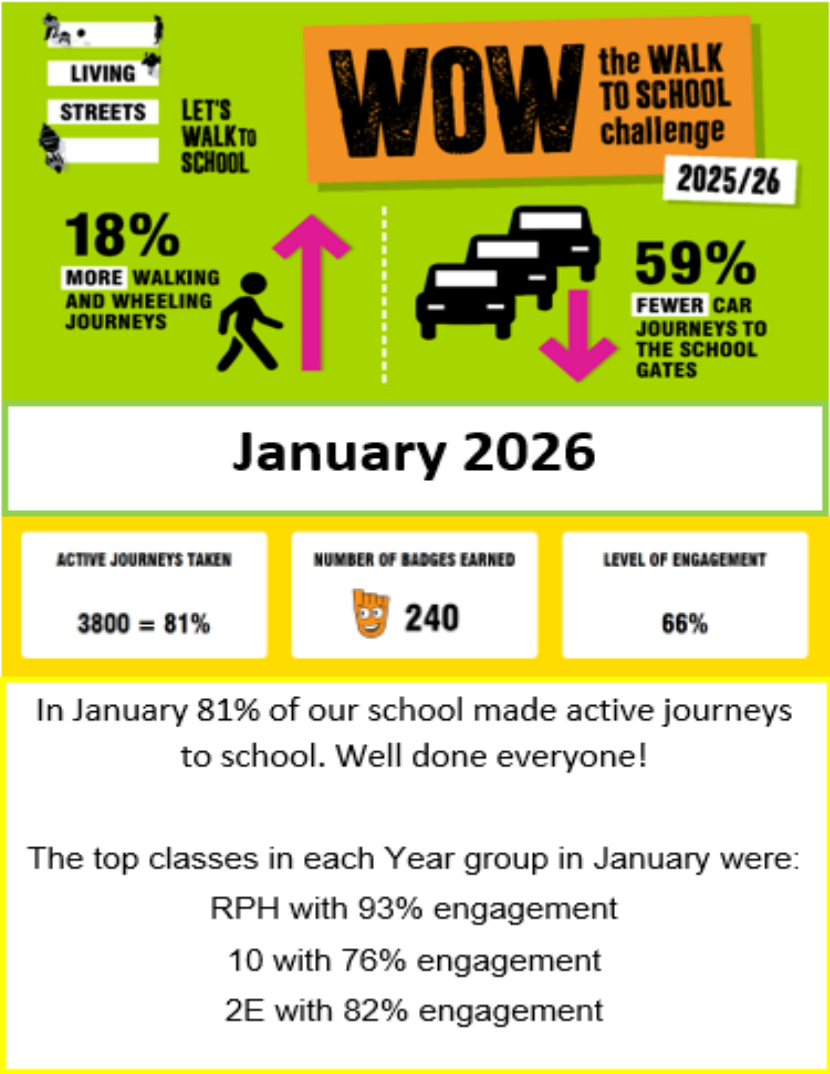
Walk to School Wednesday



'Walk to School Wednesday' is a new initiative we are hoping to take part in once a half term to encourage families to walk to school.

If you would like to join us for our first 'Walk to School Wednesday' we will be asking you to meet at **Deysbrook Tesco on Wednesday 23rd October at 8.30 am**. It will involve you and your child/children arriving at Tesco car park at the stated time and then all together (parents/carers, children and staff) will walk along Deysbrook Lane onto Melwood Drive towards school.

We hope that you will be able to join us and take part in our first 'Walk to School Wednesday' this term.



"I planted flowers for the bees because they help flowers and food grow."
Lily Y2

"I like walking to school because it helps keep the air clean and it's good for me. I also like getting my Travel Tracker badges."
Nevaeh Y2

School Action 3 – Living sustainably

Photos/videos/pupil voice

REUSE AND RECYCLE EVENT



Many thanks to Mrs Edwards and the Eco Council for running our Reuse and Recycle event this week as part of our ongoing commitment to caring for the environment. Reusing and recycling are important because they help to reduce waste and save valuable resources. Thank you to those who gave donations for preloved dressing-up costumes, summer uniform and children's books. The money will be used to further develop our school grounds to benefit all our children.



Uniform Drive



Reusing Nativity Costumes



Book Swap



School Action 3 – Main Living Sustainably Action



LIVING SIMPLY GROWING SUSTAINABLY

Our children have been busy caring for the fruit and vegetables we are growing as part of our Live Simply journey. They have been watering, weeding and nurturing our plants, learning first hand about the importance of caring for God's Creation. This hands on experience is helping the children to understand where food comes from and how we can live more simply and sustainably.

It has been wonderful to see their pride and excitement as our garden begins to flourish.





Carbon Literacy Project

This is to certify that via

Let's Go Zero

Claire Edwards

has met all the requirements of the Carbon Literacy Standard and thus for the purposes of workplace, education and community should be regarded as Carbon Literate.

signed



Jon Wilson, Chair on behalf of The Carbon Literacy Trust.
Registered Charity Number 1158175

date 30th Jun 2025 certificate no. 001338731 v2.50



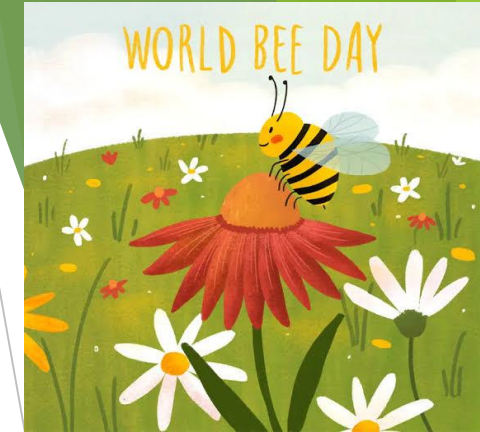
I have loved looking after all our fruit and vegetables. I help water them every day.
Quinn YR

If we all help look after God's world, we can make a difference.
Millie Y2

The school has really encouraged us as a family to think more about the choices we make, such as walking to school, reusing things and passing on clothes and books. It is lovely to see the children learning about sustainability from such a young age.
Y1 Parent

School Action 3 – Main Living Sustainably Action

- ▶ To celebrate **World Bee Day**, our Year 2 children visited local beekeepers to learn why bees are so important. As part of our commitment to the Live Simply Award, the children discovered that bees help flowers, fruit and vegetables to grow by carrying pollen from one plant to another.
- ▶ They learned how bees work together in a hive to make honey and why we need to protect them by planting flowers and looking after nature.
- ▶ The visit helped the children understand that even small creatures are an important part of God's creation. It inspired them to care for bees and to see that small actions, such as planting flowers for pollinators, can help care for our common home.



"I loved going to see the bees and learning all about them. I liked tasting the honey."
Harry Y2



School Action 3 – Living sustainably

**THE BIG
PLASTIC
COUNT
11-17 MARCH**

Mrs Edwards led an assembly on recycling and caring for our planet. We are all taking part in the Big Plastic Count to see how much plastic we are using at home and in school. Please carry on counting over the weekend.



CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

The Big Plastic Count 2024

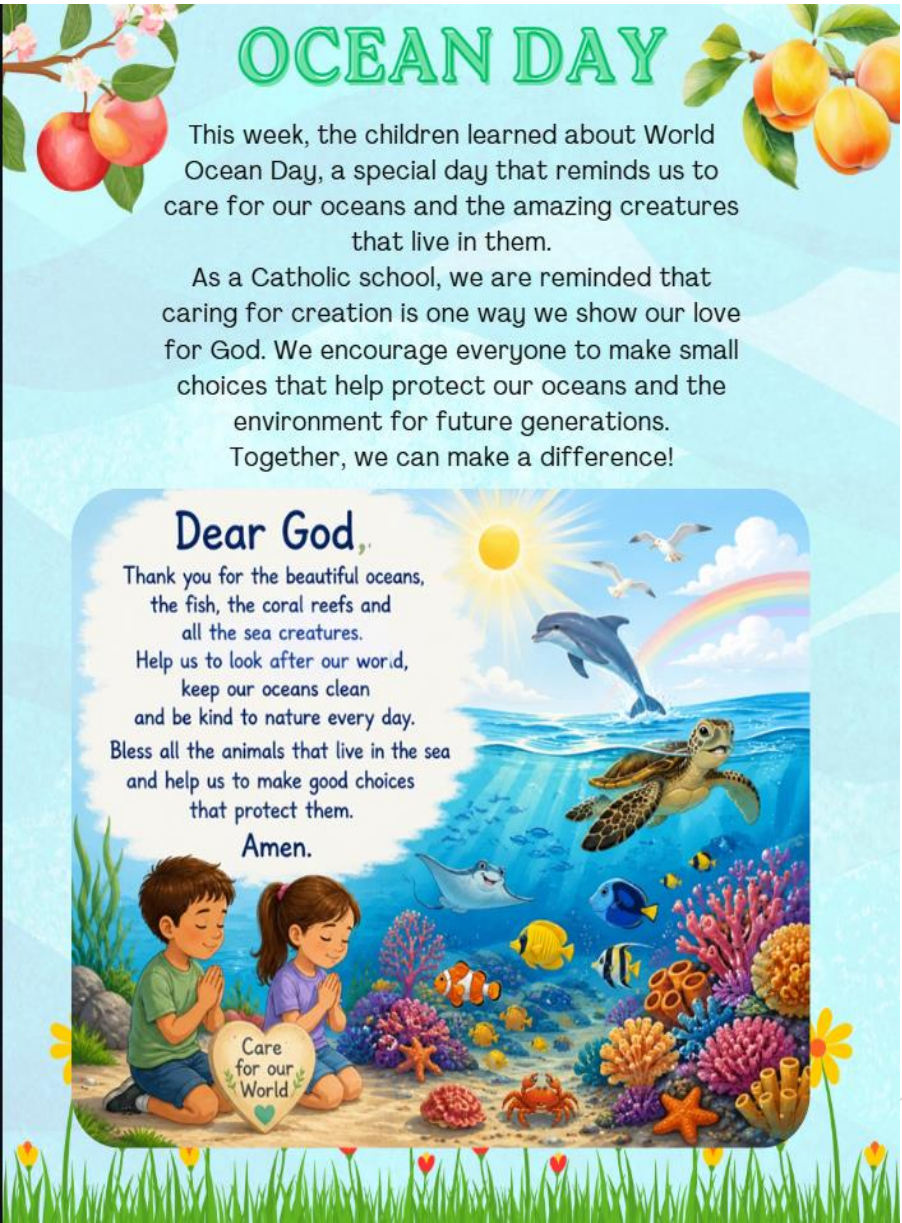
THANK YOU!

St Paul and St Timothy's Catholic Infant School

For taking part in The Big Plastic Count, 2024

You've helped get to the bottom of
the plastic waste crisis

**THE BIG
PLASTIC
COUNT**



Our food waste is taken each day to a local pig farm by Mrs McCleod



Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your LiveSimply journey?

Over the past two years, working towards the Live Simply Award has become much more than gathering evidence for an application. It has transformed the way we think, learn and act as a school community. Living simply, caring for our common home and standing in solidarity with others are now woven into the daily life of our school, influencing our curriculum, prayer, worship, decision-making and everyday actions.

Our children understand that they are never too young to make a difference. Through many small acts of kindness, service and care for creation, they are growing into compassionate, responsible stewards of God's world. Families, parishioners and the wider community have embraced this journey alongside us, creating a shared commitment to living out our faith through action.

The impact of this journey has inspired us to establish **Little Faith Explorers**, an after-school club where children continue to deepen their faith through prayer, reflection and hands-on activities linked to caring for God's creation, serving others and living out Catholic Social Teaching. The club provides even more opportunities for children to explore how they can put their faith into action and make a positive difference in the world around them.

The Live Simply Award is not the end of our journey but an important milestone. We are excited to continue building on everything we have achieved, finding new ways to care for our common home, support our global family and inspire future generations to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with others. Together, we will continue to put our faith into action, ensuring that the values of the Live Simply Award remain at the heart of our school for many years to come.

LITTLE FAITH EXPLORERS CLUB

This week, we held our first Little Faith Explorers Club where the children explored how Lent is a journey with and a special time to grow closer to Jesus.

